FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 AUGUST 1983

Lebanon

IDF redeployment to southern Lebanon is "only a matter of days," Israeli Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi told the foreign press association in Tel Aviv. In remarks reported by Jerusalem radio, Levi declined to give an exact date for the pull out and stated that Israel will not be responsible for events in the Ash-Shuf after withdrawal. The Lebanese Army is capable of taking over in the region if it takes the right approach, Levi said according to the radio. Defense sources cited in a related radio report claim the IDF redeployment will not begin before the beginning of September.

In Beirut, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens denied claims that Israel is supplying weapons to inhabitants in the Ash-Shuf, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The IDF did not support the Druze in earlier clashes with the Phalangist forces, the minister said, but is exerting efforts to help all sides reach an agreement in the area. The minister reiterated Israeli support for the Lebanese Government, the radio added. Phalangist leaders expressed concern over the withdrawal in a meeting with Arens, a related Jerusalem radio report stated. Arens later rejected suggestions that the IDF disarm the Phalangist militia before withdrawal, the radio noted. The minister told reporters that if Syria maintains its unwillingness to withdraw, Israel will favor a "disengagement of forces" as a "temporary" measure, according to the radio.

Meanwhile, the IDF began to withdraw from the Ash-Shuf area and reinforced positions further south as the first stage in redeployment, the Voice of Lebanon reported. The IDF camp in Ad-Damur has been dismantled also, Beirut radio said. Beirut airport resumed operations as scheduled, the radio added.

Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas toured Syrian positions in the western Al-Biqa' valley, the Voice of Lebanon stated. Monitored Syrian sources have not been observed to report the visit. Earlier, IDF soldiers foiled a Syrian attempt to advance its positions in the western Al-Biqa', according to the Israeli paper *Ha'aretz*.

Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov stated that the USSR believes Israel to be the "aggressor" in Lebanon and its withdrawal must be "absolute and unconditional," Beirut radio reported. All foreign forces must also withdraw, the envoy added according to the radio.

PLO Affairs

Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with the PLO conciliation committee in Damascus and discussed the Fatah dispute, SANA reported. After the committee met with Fatah opposition leaders on 15 August, dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa told KUNA that he had "high hopes" of reaching "suitable" solutions to the dispute.

In the Al-Biqa' valley, Syrian forces intervened after "violent" clashes erupted between Fatah loyalists and dissidents, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. A related radio report stated that dissident leaders and Lebanese leftists have met to discuss the formation of a joint force with possible aid from Libya. Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has ordered a suicide squad to be formed to "liquidate" his opponents in Fatah and other factions as well as Lebanese leftist leaders sympathizing with the dissidents, according to the radio.

In a Damascus statement cited by Radio Monte Carlo, the PFLP-General Command led by Ahmad Jabril reiterated its "absolute support" for the dissidents and said it places all its resources at the disposal of the group opposing 'Arafat.

Libya-Chad

Negotiations to end the present conflict in Chad must be held only with Libya, Chadian President Hissein Habre stated at a Ndjamena news conference, according to SUNA. The Libyan forces are continuing to bomb Oum Chalouba and Koro-Toro and now occupy "50 percent" of the country, Habre told journalists. Habre also appealed to the African presidents meeting in Brazzaville to exert efforts to stop the "flagrant Libyan aggression," SUNA added.

In the Congolese capital, Libyan UN representative 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki told Paris radio that France could help by pressuring Habre to negotiate and to accept a political solution.

Meanwhile, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu ordered troops into eastern Chad between Oum Chalouba and Abeche, AFP reported.

Iran

In a speech to hajj organization officials broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni rejected the view that the hajj should be separated from its political content. He said the problems facing Muslims in various parts of the world should be raised at the hajj. The supervisor of pilgrim affairs, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, rejected the Saudi position that the hajj ceremonies must be free of political content, IRNA reported. Addressing participants in the forthcoming hajj ceremonies, Musavi-Kho'ini said it is incumbent on all Muslims to voice from Mecca their resentment toward world blasphemy, IRNA added.

Commenting on the war against Iraq, Khomeyni said in the same speech to hajj organization officials that those who maintain that

the people are becoming tired of the war sit idly, causing difficulties for the nation. The Iranian people, Khomeyni said, voluntarily go to the front. He equated becoming tired of the war with being tired of the Koran and of Islam.

Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi presented Iran's first 5-year plan in an address to the Majlis, broadcast by Tehran radio. The plan provides for growth in the defense industry, self-sufficiency in food production, development of basic industries, expansion of mining, and improved social welfare. The plan also seeks to reduce the dependence of the country's economy on oil.

Afghanistan

In what was described by AFP and Karachi radio as the "biggest" attack by rebels on Kabul since the Soviet intervention, the Afghan radio and television building and a fort in eastern Kabul occupied by Soviet troops came under heavy fire "last weekend." AFP cited "unconfirmed reports" that Soviet losses were "very heavy." Shells and rockets fired from "at least five" rebel positions damaged apartments in the Microrayon district inhabited by Afghan party officials and Soviet advisers, AFP reported. Monitored Afghan sources have not been observed to report the rebel attack.

Pakistan

In a series of disturbances by demonstrators protesting military rule in Sind over 1,200 people have been arrested, AFP reported. One person died and six others were injured when police opened fire on rioting prisoners at Nawabshah jail. AFP added that people arrested during the protests against the military government have been held at Nawabshah jail. In an interview with the London paper *Ash-Sharq al-Awsar*, President Ziaul Haq precluded a change to civilian government until a suitable successor emerges. Zia added in the interview that the People's Party will not be allowed to contest the national elections.

Egypt

During a dialogue with Egyptian expatriates reported by MENA, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali expressed the hope that relations with the Soviet Union will be normalized with full diplomatic representation. He said relations between the two countries "are developing for the better." 'Ali said the joint economic committee is to meet in December to discuss economic cooperation, MENA added. In an interview with *Cairo Today*, reported by Beirut radio, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said the international situation as a whole is suitable for a rapprochement between Egypt and the Soviet Union. Moscow radio's Arabic servicewelcomed a call by the Cairo paper *As-Siyasah* for an improvement in Egyptian-Soviet relations.

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PLO Mediation Committee Begins Work in Syria

Meeting With Syria's Khaddam

NC170818 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus radio last night reported that Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with the PLO Central Committee'sdelegation, which includes several committee members and which is entrusted with clearing the atmosphere of relations between Fatah and Syria.

During the meeting, the situation in the Lebaense arena, Palestinian-Syrian relations, and the means of preserving the unity of the PLO groups and the Fatah movements were reviewed. Several members of the delegation expressed their appreciation of the Syrian stance against the U.S.-Zionist plans.

Meeting With Opposition Leaders

LD161134 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0954 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 16 Aug (KUNA) — A PLO Central Committee [PCC] mediation committee delegation, headed by Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the National Council, met here last night with a number of opposition leaders within the Fatah movement. The meeting was attended for the opposition by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Imlah, Mahdi Bisaysu, and Abu Akram.

Following the meeting, which lasted until the early hours of this morning, Colonel Abu Musa gave a statement to KUNA. He said that "the committee listened to a comprehensive and detailed review of our political, organizational, and behavioral demands for reforms within the Fatah movement since the first day of our uprising, and we explained our viewpoint with complete frankness and clarity regarding the existing dispute within the Fatah movement."

Abu Musa added: "Naturally it is very difficult to reach results after one session, and there will be a series of meetings between us and the committee members to hear their viewpoints and the proposals they carry from our brethren in the Fatah Central Committee. As yet we have not learned of the views and ideas carried by the committee to settle the existing dispute." He said:"We have high hopes of reaching suitable solutions that will serve our struggle course along the line of armed struggle and the liberation of Palestine."

Abu Musa praised PCC decisions. He said that "we value the decisions of the Central Council, especially those regarding a cease-fire among the fighters of the Fatah movement, on setting up a military commission to supervise the cease-fire, and also the council's decision to halt the propaganda campaigns between the two sides because through such provocations internal political matters cannot be solved within the framework of the Fatah movement."

Regarding last night's clashes in the Al-Biqa' region between 'Arafat opponents and supporters, Abu Musa accused 'Arafat supporters of starting the exchange of gunfire. He said:The other side began firing at some of our positions. Despite this, strict orders were issued not to retaliate as a commitment to the cease-fire adopted by the Palestinian Central Council. Our belief is that democratic dialogue will judge the existing dispute between us. We will retailiate only in the event of casualties affecting our fighters at their positions." He added: "The firing stopped after 2 hours because we did not retaliate. The situation is now calm and there is nothing new to report."

He expressed his hope that the "brethren within the Fatah movement will adhere to the cease-fire so as not to lead matters to actual fighting, because fighting cannot be the solution and cannot be the way to finding a sound and logical solution for continuation of the Palestinian struggle against the Zionist enemy."

Yasir 'Umar, PCC mediation committee member said: "At the meeting we listened to the views of the opposition regarding the existing dispute. We are working for PLO unity." He added that "there will be a meeting after the opposition movement delegation returns from Libya [as received], and we hope to reach a fundamental solution to settle the problem"

Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Imlah said that the commission "informed us about the decisions adopted by the Central Council at its latest session in Tunis, and listened to our viewpoint regarding many issues." He added: "We felt from the members of the committee their definite striving to reach a solution which would maintain the unity of Fatah and the PLO, and the committee has many positive points, among which includes patriotic Palestinian personalities known for their struggle, and its declaration that our political demands are the same as theirs."

Al-Wazir Assesses Palestinian-Syrian Relations

NC170921 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Palestinian Revolution Forces deputy commander in chief, has welcomed the beginning of the Palestinian mediation committee's work.

In a speech he delivered at the graduation of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides of the Martyr Halim course in Lebanon, he said:Since the beginning we responded positively to any national, Arab, or international effort to stop the shedding of blood in the Palestinian revolution's military body and to safeguard its gains, victories, and abilities, which must be devoted to confronting the Zionist enemy. Jihad added: However, we see with regret that those who caused all these tragedies in the Palestinian arena are acting rashly and saying that they will not accept this new Palestinian effort. They are showing that they could not care less about the dear Palestinian blood and the revolution's gains.

Brother Abu Jihad said: The committee and its members represent the will of our Central Committee, which represents all forces and trends of our Palestinian people. We will offer whatever is possible for their success in this important and critical national mission. We will respond to their efforts to bring about an end to our people's tragedies.

Brother Abu Jihad stressed that there are two basic tasks before the committee. He said Syrian-Palestinian relations — particularly between Fatah and Syria — are the first task. On our part we will do our utmost effort to restore these relations to their fraternal and normal situation in the service of the Palestinian, Syrian, and Arab struggle in general. We believe that our brother Syrians will eventually opt for maintaining their struggle relations with the entire Fatah movement and not with a section of Fatah. We hope that this will take place before further losses are sustained in our joint struggle at the national and pan-Arab level.

As to the other task before the committee, Brother Abu Jihad said it is that of ending the internecine fighting immediately and finally, as nobody — regardless of his protection and position — is allowed to shed more of this dear blood. Those causing the shedding of this blood will only reap popular curses and hatred. Our primary duty in these critical circumstances, Brother Abu Jihad said, is to bring about a speedy cohesion of the Palestinian-Syrian-national Lebanese struggle to confront together our struggle tasks and burdens dictated by the current serious phase, during which the Zionist-Phalangist-U.S. plans are being carried out against Lebanon's integrity and independence, against Syria's security, and against the Palestinian struggle and its safety.

Fatah Rebel Leader Musa Criticizes 'Arafat

LD161402 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Colonel Abu Musa, member of the new revolutionary command of Fatah, has accused Yasir 'Arafat of pushing the strugglers to fight those who oppose him.

In an interview with the international news agency [wikalat al-anba' ad-dawliyah], Brother Abu Musa stressed that the new revolutionary movement inside Fatah represents a level of mature revolutionary awareness, considering that the capitulation plans — especially the American plan — aim only to serve the U.S. imperialist plans and the Zionist program in the Arab region. He condemned the the bartering Palestinian leaderships who reacted with the U.S. programs which [words indistinct] the existence of the Palestinian problem and the Palestinian people.

Fatah Dissident Salih, Delegation Depart Libya

LD161342 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The delegation of the new Fatah revolutionary movement left Tripoli before midday today. Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], member of the leading committee of the new Fatah revolutionary movement, gave a statement to JANA prior to his departure from Tripoli airport:

We feel confident as we say goodbye to the Jamahiryah — the land of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution — and to our positions because we are capable of reaching our targets, the targets of all Arabs, of defeating the Zionist enemy or of defending the Palestinian cause. He added: We are more confident and have more faith in the ability of our Arab nation to achieve its aspirationsof freedom and liberation after meeting the brother leader of the revolution, who works for the unity of all revolutionaries and to achieve the aims of the Arab nation: to protect Lebanon, and to support the cause of the Palestinian people and their right to return to their homeland.

PFLP-GC Affirms Absolute Support for Dissidents

JN161325 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] In a statement issued in Damascus today, the PFLP-GC — which is led by Ahmad Jibril — renewed its absolute support for he Fatah dissidents in all fields and said that it places all its resources unreservedly at the disposal of these dissidents.

Involvement in Fighting Denied

GF161650 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 15 Aug 83 P 2

[Text] A responsible source at the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — General Command has denied any connection with the current hostilities or the intra-Fatah dispute.

In an official statement in reply to a statement made by Abu Al-Adib [Salim az-Za'nun, Fatah Central Committee member], the source said the PFLP-GC's absence from the PLO Central Council's meeting which was held in Tunis recently was clarified in a statement which the PFLP-GC issued at that time.

The source added: The absence was out of the PFLP-GC's desire for Palestinian national unity and PLO unity. Any attempt to export the crisis outside Fatah is an escape from dealing with things responsibly.

Violent Fatah Clashes Continue in Lebanon

NC161823 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Our correspondent in the Al-Biqa' reports that violent clashes have been taking place for some time now between Fatah and the mutineers in the areas of Ta'lbaya, Sa'd Nayil, the outskirts of Jalala, and in Shtawrah, and that heavy weapons, tanks, field artillery, rockets, and mortars are being used in the clashes.

At 1850, the Syrian forces intervened to disengage the two sides. The intensity of the clashes began to ease gradually at the time of this newscast.

Loyalists Vacate Jdita Positions

NC151442 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Our Al-Biqa' correspondent reported that Yasir 'Arafat loyalists led by Abu Ahmad Isma'il have vacated all their positions in Jdita except for their post in the Khatir Hotel. Our correspondent added that the Abu Musa group has set up a new post in Jdita near Ahmad Husayn 'Ali's house, and that the special Syrian units in Jdita have rotated.

Our correspondent pointed out that the Syrians are erecting stationary roadblocks reinforced by sand barriers near Jdita and the houses of Joseph and George 'Aql.

'Arafat Sends Message to Senegalese President

JN161717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has sent a message to Senegalese President Abdo Diouf. The message was conveyed to the Senegalese president by a special envoy who arrived in Dakar last night. WAFA said the message included Abu 'Ammar's call to renew Arab-African struggle in the face of racism and Zionism.

Abu 'Ammar's envoy will deliver a similar message within the next 2 days to Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda.

PLF Official Najm Interviewed on Fatah Crisis

GF161520 Ash-Shariqah Al-Khalij in Arabic 16 Aug 83 p 16

[Interview with Ahmad Najm (alias Abu al-'Ala'), Palestinian Liberation Front Political Bureau member and official in charge of information, by unidentified *Al-Khalij* correspondent in Damascus — no date given]

[Excerpts] *Al-Khalij*: The Fatah crisis has affected in one way or another most of the Palestinian factions and the Palestinian situation. How has the Fatah crisis affected the Palestinian Liberation Front, particularly as its stand initially was not militant — or let us say it was friendly to begin with?

Abu al-'Ala': Ever since the recent moves in Fatah began, the leadership of the Palestinian Liberation Front has maintained a principled stand that emphasized the need for democratic reform within the framework of the unity of Fatah and the PLO and the need to stop fighting. This stand was conveyed to all the brothers, both the leaders of the movement and Fatah's leaders. The Palestinian Liberation Front Central Committee held an expanded meeting, and on 12 June endorsed these principles. The committee emphasized that these principles are linked. It acted on this basis together with the other factions and forces of the Palestinian revolution.

In the days that preceded the escalation of the fighting [within Fatah] and during the fighting, it appeared that the differences have become deeper as a result of the increase of the demands of one side, and the unpreparedness of the other side to implement the demands for reform. The fighting threatened the future and survival of the Palestinian revolution and the good relations with Syria, as well as the Lebanese national movement in view of the fact that the fighting was taking place in very sensitive areas as well as on the front line with the enemy.

The Palestinian Liberation Front issued a statement on 30 June in which it appealed to everyone to stop the fighting and defined the past bases for democratic reform and for the unity of the PLO and the Palestinian revolution. This was followed by the joint statement with the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine in order to safeguard the revolution and safeguard its alliances with Syria and the Lebanese national movement. We are continuing to contribute toward the resolution of the dispute on these same bases through the various existing committees. In this, we act from the premise of protecting our revolution and not from a position of neutrality or being in favor of anyone, nor from a position of mediation. We are part of the Palestinian arena and are concerned with its development and unity.

Al-Khalij: It is being said that there is a crisis within the Palestinian Liberation Front itself connected with what stand should be adopted toward what is happening. How true is this?

Abu al-'Ala': I do not know who said this and where it was said. I have already said that the front's daily leadership and its central command have adopted their stand and decided their action following lengthy meetings. I believe that talk about a crisis is nonsense — it's the fashion nowadays. What distinguishes our experience in the Palestinian Liberation Front since its inception in 1977 is that we have not committed any foolish political acts. Our stand was always principled and respected by the Palestinian masses and the fighters of the Palestinian revolution. We have not fallen into the pitfall of crises, and this is something we take pride in. Our patriotic [watani] instinct has remained sound all this time.

Al-Khalij: How do you view what is being said about external interference affecting what is happening? More precisely, how do you view the stand of the Arab regimes toward Fatah's internal dispute? Is it a positive or negative stand?

Abu al-'Ala': I have already said in my answer to the first question that what is happening now is connected with a political settlement and is not an issue that has arisen now. The factors for differences among the Arab regimes over the general Arab situation exist. As a result of its national and pan-Arab stand, the Palestinian revolution joined the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and was anxious to reach agreement on a minimal Arab stand of solidarity on conditions that safeguard its independence.

In the present situation we do not believe that the search for external causes is useful in resolving the differences, even though such causes may exist. This is because the resolution of the differences is the correct approach for making the Palestinian revolution an effective factor in the Arab situation and not merely reflecting the policies of this or that side. We believe that the perception of the internal factors is more important, while at the same time we must not ignore the pressures on the Palestinian arena. We view the increasing talk by some regimes about the independence of the PLO — particularly in the present circumstances — as insincere. The intention is to weaken the PLO's unity and independence and involve it in Arab differences. At the same time we stress that the PLO's pan-Arab [Qawmi] role is to unify and develop the bases of Arab confrontation and not to be isolated.

Al-Khalij: How do you view the possibility of setting up a government-in-exile?

Abu al-'Ala': We have already explained our view on this matter in the editorial of our central newspaper, *Al-Qa'idah*. We said that such a proposal will not benefit our national cause in the present circumstances, and that the conditions and realities of our national struggle are incompatible with the establishment of a government-in-exile. A government-in-exile is not the way to confront the imperialist and reactionary plans that are being proposed. Such a proposal creates confusion and destroys the bases of national cohesion in the Palestinian area. Therefore. we reject such a proposal and believe it is very harmful to our cause.

Liberia Urged To Reconsider Renewed Israeli Ties

OAU Asked To Intervene

GF161646 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT !6 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The PLO today called on the OAU to hold contacts with the Liberian Government to make it withdraw its decision to resume diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity.

Arab League Request

LD162101 Kuwait KUNA in English 1907 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Tunis, Aug 16 (KUNA) — The Arab League Tuesday called on Liberia to reverse its decision to restore diplomatic relations with Israel, but added that it would not allow this to undermine the basic relations of solidarity and friendship between the Arab and African peoples.

A statement issued by the league's General Secretariat said such relations would resist the lures provided by outside political pressure or material gain, in an evident reference to reports that Liberia's decision was motivated by promises of U.S. financial and military support. Liberia's action, it added, was a betrayal of the will of an entire continent, made a mockery of the decisions of the organization of African unity, and was regrettable in light of the common goals of freedom, development, stability, and progress shared by the Arab and African peoples.

However, the league document stressed, this action would not affect the Arab world's attitude towards Africa which, in racist South Africa, confronted the same kind of enemy as the Arabs did in Israel. The close ties between the twin racist states was no secret, the statement added, and it was imperative that the basic principles of solidarity be adhered to in order to confront them. Arab calls for breaking diplomatic ties with Israel were not only motivated by Israeli occupation of Arab lands, it said, but because the struggle against Israel is part of our joint fight against racism, chauvinism, and outside domination.

In the name of these joint principles which our peoples have fought long and hard for, the statement called on Liberia to reverse its ill-advised decision.

BAHRAIN

Saudi Official Holds Further Talks in Manama

GF161125 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Manama, 16 Aug (QNA) — Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah today received Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who is currently visiting Bahrain. WAKH reported that Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah attended the meeting.

His Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Manama yesterday on a visit to Bahrain which is part of a tour of a number of GCC countries.

Departs 16 August

GF161130 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1025 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Manama, 16 Aug (WAKH) — Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Manama for home today following a 1-day visit to Bahrain.

The Saudi minister stated that during the visit he had conveyed a message from Saudi King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to the amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, dealing with bilateral relations and with issues of concern to the region. He added that he reviewed with the deputy amir of Bahrain and with Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah cooperation and joint coordination among the countries of the region, as well as between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. He also stressed that these talks will benefit the peoples of the region within the framework of the GCC.

The Saudi foreign affairs minister has visited Oman, Qatar and the UAE in addition to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

U.S. Praise for Liberia-Israel Ties Criticized

LD161221 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1158 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Aug (KUNA) — Kuwait today expressed indignation at the recent American official statements praising Liberia's decision to restore relations with Israel.

Acting Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry under secretary, Khalid indignation to the U.S. charge d'affaires in Kuwait, Philip Grif-fin, during a meeting with him at the Foreign Ministry today.

It is recalled that in a statement made 2 days ago, Allen Romberg, the U.S. State Department's official spokesman, praised Liberia's decision to restore diplomatic representation between it and the Zionist entity, and urged other African countries to follow suit.

Ja'far said that in addition to the expression of indignation, he also discussed with the American charge d'affaires the development of events in the area, including the war between Iraq and Iran and the situation in Lebanon, as well as a number of matters of common interest.

OMAN

Djibouti Official on Foreign Interference in Chad

GF161300 Doha QNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Muscat, 16 Aug (QNA) — Djibouti Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Moumin Bahdon Farah has denounced the interference of foreign forces in Chad. He also expressed his country's regret about what is taking place there.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Muscat, Farah demanded that a solution acceptable to all the sides be reached in Chad in order to avert bloodshed.

As for Djibouti's stance on the Ethiopian-Somali differences, he said that his country believes that there is a need to hold direct negotiations between the two countries in order to put an end to the war taking place between them.

Djibouti Official Concludes Visit

GF170825 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Moumin Bahdon Farah, Djibouti minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, left the country this morning following a 3-day visit to the Sultanate.

QATAR

GULF TIMES Praises Mubarak Call for Arab Unity

GF161135 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Doha, 16 Aug (QNA) — The English-language Qatari paper *Gulf Times* today comments on Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's call for forging solidarity and Arab unity, describing this call as meriting consideration. The paper adds that in the current crises which the Arab nation is experiencing, any call in this regard must be seriously considered, and the Arabs must realize that the current situation cannot continue for a long time without bringing serious consequences.

Gulf Times proposes holding an emergency Arab summit as a partial solution toward tackling serious Arab issues such as the Arab-Israeli confrontation and Arab disintegration. The paper expresses confidence that the summit conference will achieve an Arab understanding, in the interest of the issue, in the same way as the Arab leaders agreed unanimously to the draft Arab peace plan during the last Fes summit. The paper stresses that a single Arab summit will not unify the Arabs completely, but were it a kind of self-criticism, then it would be a step in the right direction.

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh Commentator on Lebanese Accord, Unity

GF161308 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Aug 83

[News Analysis by Muhammad Ja'far al-Ghamdi]

[Excerpts] A Lebanese accord and national unity are the most important requirements which impose themselves on the Lebanese arena at this decisive stage in Lebanon's history when it is facing continued Israeli ambitions.

Observers concur that Lebanese unanimity under the Lebanese Government is the strong foundation for any confrontation of Israel's attempts to perpetuate its occupation in parts of Lebanon. Because Israel, by sowing discord among the sons of the Lebanese people, wants to realize a goal which undoubtedly all Lebanese people know will have repercussions on their country's future. Israel sows discord in Lebanon once symptoms of success for the efforts to withdraw its invading forces from Lebanon appear on the horizon. This is why Israel wants to keep the Lebanese Government busy calming the sectarian clashes in an attempt to use time and place obstacles in the way of efforts aimed at withdrawing its forces from Lebanon.

Events showed that Lebanon needs the efforts of every Lebanese citizen to reconstruct it and repair what Israel has devastated. This can only be achieved through a national Lebanese stand under the Lebanese Government that will enable Lebanon to get rid of the Israeli invasion overshadowing it and enable it to foil Israel's aggressive designs and concentrate the Lebanese efforts for the sake of Lebanon and the recovery of its wellbeing and the reestablishment of its control on every inch of its territory.

In as much as Lebanon requires the efforts and unity of its sons, it also needs every sincere Arab effort to take it out of its crisis and enable it to confront the Israeli ambitions on it. The Arab moves currently being made on the Arab scene for this purpose are a real translation of the unlimited Arab support for Lebanon to confront the common enemy. In this regard, the observer will surely note, with great admiration, the eminent and pioneering role the Kingdom is playing to support Lebanon for the sake of Lebanese unity. For this, it is making all efforts through contacts which are aimed at easing the tension and stopping the shedding of brothers' blood.

Monetary Official Justifies Riyal Adjustments

GF161534 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Hamad as-Sayyari, acting governor of the Saudi Arab Monetary Agency [SAMA], has affirmed that the Saudi riyal is wellknown for being an unrestricted convertible currency, like other free currency.

In a statement to SPA, commenting on the recent changes in the Riyal's adjustment of its value against some other currency, like the dollar, As-Sayyari said: Fixing the dollar's value against free currency is made in accordance with the riyal's value with the right for special withdrawals issued by the World Monetary Fund. The recent changes were a reaction to the high rise in the dollar's value against all other free currencies in the world financial market.

The SAMA acting governor noted that while the riyal's value against the dollar fell by 003.0 riyals in the past week, the riyal's value against all other free currencies rose. For example, the riyal's value against the Deutsche mark rose from 1.34 to 1.28, or 006.0 each. Its value against the Swiss franc rose from 1.64 to 1.60, or 004.0. Likewise, its value against the sterling rose from 5.28 to 5.18, or 010.0. He said that the riyal's value against the Japanese yen rose from 69.31 to 70.82 yen per riyal. The French franc against the riyal fell from 2.24 to 2.36. Thus, the change in the riyal's value against other currencies is because it is a convertible free currency and consequently it goes up and down against each other according to the prices in the international financial market and according its link to the special withdrawal right which is issued by the World Monetary Fund under an international agreement.

UAE

President Receives U.S. Ambassador 16 August

GF161346 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 Aug (WAM) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received at the Al-Bahr Palace this morning U.S. Ambassador to the UAE George Quincey Kunsden. During the meeting, which was attended by Chief of the President's Royal Court Surur ibn Muhammad and Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, relations between the two countries were discussed.

PDRY

Memo Sent to France on Diplomat's Death

GF161812 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] In a statement to ANA today an official source at the Foreign Ministry said that a member of the staff of our embassy in Paris died when his car exploded yesterday. The car was destroyed. He is the late Yahya Nasir 'Ali.

Deputy Foreign Minister Muhammad 'Ali 'Anayah today summoned the French charge d'affaires in Aden and handed him an official memorandum from the PDRY Government to the French Government requesting our country's participation in investigating the incident, the punishment of the culprits, and providing protection for our embassy and members of our diplomatic mission in Paris.

Deputy Planning Minister Leaves for Moscow
GF161848 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] A delegation of the planning subcommittee stemming from the PDRY-Soviet joint economic committee led by Deputy Minister of Planning 'Abdallah Sa'id 'Abaddan left Aden today to attend the third round of meetings of the planning subcommittee in Moscow from 16-25 August.

The committee will discuss cooperation in the field of planning

14 OCTOBER Comments on Summit Meeting in San'a'
GF161902 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Aden newspaper *14 October* has reaffirmed the importance of the historic San'a' meeting between the leaderships of the two parts of Yemen. The paper said that it is clear that the achievements that have been accomplished so far in various fields between the two parts of the homeland constitute a firm basis for closer cooperation between the two parts of the Yemen and create a more favorable climate to accomplish other achievements on the road of fulfilling the aspirations of our Yemeni people.

In its editorial today *14 October* said that the historic meeting will not be a source of satisfaction to imperialist and reactionary forces. Therefore, the paper added, we must always expect that imperialism and its agents will continue, using various means and methods, to place obstacles and difficulties in the way of the achievement of our people's noble goals. The paper stressed that the confrontation of such plots requires the provision of favorable conditions for the implementation of the measures and steps to establish a unified state with a national democratic system.

The newspaper *14 October* said that there is no doubt that the efforts of the two parts of the homeland must be a basis for defending national sovereignty and stands opposed to imperialism, Zionism, and reactionaries and coordinating the policies on various Arab and international developments so as to develop Yemen's role and standing on both the Arab and international levels.

The paper asserted that the masses of our people in the two parts of the homeland which expect with firm hope that the fraternal meeting between the leaders of the two parts of Yemen will culminate with the desired success realize with their sound revolutionary instinct that national needs require that the joint dialogue is accompanied by a real implementation of the steps that have been agreed upon, particularly with regard to the issues of destiny that are of importance to our Yemeni people.

In conclusion *14 October* said that our YSP has always expressed — on the basis of its consistent political and intellectual line — its principled stands on the question of national unity and coordination and cooperation between the two parts of Yemen. The paper urged that the new San'a' meeting between the leaders of the two parts of Yemen should be a serious step along the road of achieving the desired hope.

'Antar Receives DPRK Vice Foreign Minister
GF161400 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Brother Brigadier General 'Ali Nasir Ahmad 'Antar, Political Bureau member and deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, today received DPRK Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Hyong-u who conveyed to him a written message from Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee and DPRK president, to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The message deals with relations between the two friendly countries.

Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Inayah, deputy foreign minister, attended the meeting. PDRY-DPRK relations and ways of developing them were discussed during the meeting.

Brig Gen 'Antar reaffirmed the PDRY's support for the DPRK's struggle against U.S. imperialism and for the DPRK's efforts to reunify the Korean homeland by peaceful means.

YAR

Yemeni Leaders Continue Meeting in Hajjah
GF170510 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Brothers Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress; and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP secretary general, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, held a meeting at the presidential palace in Hajjah yesterday evening. During the meeting they continued discussion of the issues listed on the current session of the Yemeni council's agenda in addition to a number of issues that are of interest to both sides.

'Ali Addresses Expatriates Conference

NC161616 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has declared that Egypt's foreign policy does reflect the hopes and aspirations of the Egyptian people in their holy march toward reconstruction under the canopy of peace and the leadership of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

In a statement delivered today at the Egyptian Expatriates Conference, which opened yesterday, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt's adoption of peace was a realistic option and a tenacious strategic line which is not governed by casual or transient considerations. He added that peace has become the main feature of Egypt's foreign policy.

Touching upon Egypt's relations with the Arab brothers, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister affirmed that these are relations of destiny and fate bound by the ties of common history, hopes, and pains. 'Ali further explained that contacts among the Arab peoples were never cut and that they surmount the differences between the governments. He said the best proof of this is the number of the sons of Egypt who are contributing to the enhancement of prosperity and the promotion of progress in the Arab countries. The following is the text of Kamal Hasan 'Ali's statement to the Egyptian Expatriates Conference:

Brothers and sisters: You meet in your motherland today when its full national soil has been liberated, and when Sinai — a cherished spot of this soil — hs been regained through the blood and sweat of its sons. When the liberation process was completed, your fathers and brothers in Egypt started the process of reconstruction and the building of man and the homeland to enable every member of the Egyptian family to enjoy progress and prosperity. Also, this meeting comes at a time when the atmosphere of democracy has been consolidated. With the reign of this atmosphere, the Egyptian people can express their desire and hopes without any restrictions or obstacles, and creative potentials and rejuvenated energies will be freed to realize their mission in elevating the living standard of this people, alleviating their sufferings, and making their present better than their past and their future better than their present.

If the foreign policy of any society is the honest and sincere mirror of its interior policy, Egypt's foreign policy does reflect the hopes and aspirations of the Egyptian people in their holy march toward reconstruction under the canopy of peace and the leadership of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Egypt's adoption of peace was a realistic option and a tenacious strategic line which is not governed by casual or transient considerations. Peace has become the main feature of Egypt's foreign policy not only because it safeguards the human and material potentials, but also because it provides the best requisites for building and construction, which both are bound to achieve prosperity.

Consequently, Egypt seeks good and amicable relations with all countries. It has no interest in being hostile toward anyone. Egypt is politically open toward the entire world as long as this achieves its national interests and the common interest. Hence, Egypt's call for and commitments toward the policy of nonalignment.

If we look at the area in which we live, we would find that our relations with our Arab brothers are ones of destiny and fate bound by the ties of the common history, hopes, and pain. We have been tested by ordeals together but we surmounted them successfully. We are today linked with stronger ties. While our relations with our Arab brothers were subjected to certain crises, time has proved that the contacts at the people's level were never cut off and that they have always been constant and continuing, surmounting the differences between the governments. The best proof on this is the huge number of the sons of Egypt who are contributing toward the enhancement of prosperity and the promotion of progress in the Arab countries.

In view of Egypt's geographic affiliation to the African Continent, we share with the peoples of this continent their aspirations for confirming their national independence, and their painstaking work to catch up with the developments of the age and to eradicate backwardness. We exchange expertise with this continent and share its desire to enjoy a society of impartiality and justice. We have joint interests with the advanced world. This world governs this age's technology, of which we are in dire need to develop our societies. This world possesses the necessary expertise to give an impetus to the wheel of production. Through our close cooperation we can save a huge amount of efforts and energy and avoid falling captive to experiments and mistakes, as long as we are aware of what fits the circumstances of our society.

The technological revolution and the means of transport and communications have crushed forever all calls for isolation and have turned the world into inter-linked societies relying on each other in most aspects of their daily life.

'Ali on Jerusalem, Tabah

NC161709 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that Egypt refuses to recognize united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. He added that Egypt does not recognize the annexation of Arab Jerusalem to Israel. This assertion came during a dialogue held between Kamal Hasan 'Ali and members of the Egyptian expatriates conference after 'Ali delivered his statement to the conference.

With regard to the Tabah issue, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt rejects Israel's continued construction in Tabah. He added that the U.S. side also rejects this. He added that the negotiations concerning this problem stopped following the Israeli side's insistence on holding these negotiations in Jerusalem.

During the dialogue, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister answered a question by an expatriate on Egypt's stance on the policy of nonalignment. He said Egypt belongs to this policy.

He explained that he means that Egypt's policy is independent and that it works with the nonaligned group to tone down the

degree of international tension. He pointed out that this does not prevent Egypt from having distinguished relations with one of the countries. [as received]

On Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: We hope that these relation are normalized and that there will be full diplomatic representation. He added that the representation exists and that the relations between the two countries are developing for the better. He said the joint economic committee of the two countries is scheduled to hold its meeting in December to discuss means of consolidating economic cooperation.

In the dialogue with the Egyptian expatriates, Kamal Hasan 'Ali dealt with the relations between Egypt and the United States, affirming that Egypt does not enter into alliances. He added that the United States is the principal source of arms for Egypt. He further said that Egypt purchases arms from some Eastern countries in a bid to diversify the sources of its weapons. He asserted once again that there is no alliance between Egypt and the United States. We have normal relations with all countries of the world and special relations with the United States, he added.

In reply to questions addressed by the Arab expatriates on the Arab stand, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister reiterated Egypt's desire to safeguard Arab rights. He said: We advocate Arab solidarity to face the existing problems on the Arab arena and the dangers, the gravest of which are the dangers of Lebanon's partition and of the loss of the Palestinian people's rights. He said: That is what Egypt is endeavoring to achieve in its recent move.

'Ali Reiterates Egypt's Stance on Mideast Issues

NC161627 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that Egypt is carrying out an intensive diplomatic move on the Arab, African, and international levels with the aim of establishing world peace and security.

In a statement to our radio correspondent, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister added that Egypt is trying with all means to find a peaceful settlement to the military disputes and confrontations in the Middle East area. He said that Egypt has stressed the need for solving the Chadian problem within the OAU framework away from foreign intervention. He said Egypt called for finding a peaceful settlement of the Iraq-Iran war, and it endeavored to enable the Lebanese Government to end the internal disputes so that a concerted internal front can be formed to face the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

Muhyi ad-Din Interviewed on Elections, Economy

PM161542 Cairo Al-Ahram in Arabic 12 Aug 83 pp 1,3,5

[Interview with Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din by chief editor Ibrahim Nafi' in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: There is no doubt that the coming People's Assembly elections are of a special nature and differ from all the elections held in Egypt before. They will be held within the context of a new experiment, which is elections under the list system. How do you, first as National Democratic Party [NDP] secretary general and second as prime minister, visualize these elections?

Prime Minister: Elections, regardless of the election method, whether it is the individual system or the list system, are an honest struggle between parties working for Egypt and for the public interest. Everybody submits the program of objectives they wish to achieve for the people and seek to implement if they come to power. The NDP has its well-known program which the NDP congress endorsed. It also has its 5-year plan, the first year of which it has implemented and we the second year of which we are now implementing. The aim of the plan is development and the creation of more job opportunities during the 5 years. This is in addition to developing industry, agriculture, and services for the citizens. Everything that is contained in the plan statement is the essence of the program we are submitting to our people and on the basis of which we hope to obtain the citizens' confidence.

Elections under the list system mainly revolve around differences in party programs; each party submits a list within the constituency defined by the law.

Each party submits a list of candidates to the citizens, and party activities will center on exchange of ideas and discussions regarding who is most suited to implement the programs that serve the people.

There is no doubt that, in the NDP view, elections under the list system gives the people a greater opportunity to differentiate more clearly between the various programs and a wider choice among these programs. In the meantime the people can compare the various leaderships more widely instead of the elector having only the opportunity of choosing one candidate or two as in our previous system. The voter can now give his vote to 10 candidates, for example, in a constituency represented by 10 persons. The elector's voice will thus influence and contribute to sending a larger number of his representatives.

I believe that the election battle between the NDP and the other existing parties will give a new dimension to party life.

Question: What guarantees do you believe are necessary to achieve the ordinary citizen's hope for free, impartial, and honest elections that will sincerely reflect the will of all the citizens?

Prime Minister: This government is democratic, and one of the characteristics of democracy is that the majority rules. If the government is trustworthy — and it is indeed trustworthy with regard to the nation's borders, honor, funds, general budget, security, and stability — then there is no doubt that it should be trusted with conducting the elections. This government is constitutional and legitimate and it is its duty to run the affairs of the country as long as it enjoys the confidence of the People's Assembly and the president of the republic. The constitution and the law provide for adequate measures for contesting any

measure violating the law. It is its duty to protect the right of every citizen to perform his electoral duty.

Question: What is your view of the demand that a judiciary committee supervise the elections and that the Ministry of the Interior should keep its hands off the elections or the idea that the elections should be held under an impartial and nonparty government?

Prime Minister: In my view such doubts are unjustifiable and should not have been expressed by the opposition. We reject them absolutely.

Everything we do is in the interest of Egypt alone. I see no reason for attempting to cast doubts on the election process from now, that is almost a year before the election date.

Question: What is your answer to what is currently being said about the likelihood of the opposition parties boycotting the elections?

Prime Minister: In fact I have no answer to this because nobody can stop the march of the caravan. We are very anxious to ensure the success of the democratic process. It is our sincere wish that there will be an opposition, a strong opposition, in the People's Assembly. We hope to see all the opposition parties involved in the coming election battle and well represented in the next People's Assembly.

If any party boycotts the elections the election process will go on and this will not prevent us from completing our legislative institutions.

Question: What is the government's attitude toward the request for change in either leaderships or in attitudes, and how can the citizen feel that he is living in a new phase under President Mubarak's rule?

Prime Minister: Something new happens every day. Every day a new project is inaugurated, a road is opened, a power station is commissioned — the Cairo-Alexandria road, the Abu Sultan power station, the Abu Qir power station, a factory in Naj' Hammadi and another in Al-Hawamidiyah. This is change: large-scale development, total commitment to a scientific plan and to its implementation. Is this not change?

There is a change in individuals due to age and new generations of young people emerging in new fields and assuming key positions in the administration and the elected councils.

This too is a new pattern that creates a deep sense of change, for this is the nature of life and things.

There is a distinct change in the democratic atmosphere. This is the first government to come to power while three opposition papers are being published, opposition party meetings held, and criticism and attacks made in total freedom and security. Is this not change?

There is no doubt that one feels a new beat and that there is a desire that everything should be good and better and that the people should have their right to a better life, which will be achieved when development is realized. If change was a matter of changing one, two, or three individuals it would have been easier. We are seeking the change that will satisfy the 45 million Egyptians' desire for a better life. The wheel of life does not stop, nor the wheel of development. The wheel of prosperity should not stop, which is the most important.

Question: What is your view on the public sector in the light of the new law?

Prime minister: For some time there has been a feeling and a desire in the public sector that it should be improved. There are different schools of thought on this improvement; some urge giving full powers to company management boards while others urge giving them limited powers. Some others look at the system by which it is linked to the government and sometimes suggest banks, corporate bodies, holding companies, or other such things.

Whatever views are expressed in this regard, the problems of the public sector in Egypt since it was established and to this very day have in my view concerned four points:

First: A high centralization in which at certain times the administration responsible was unable to follow up work properly in a large number of economic units.

Second: Planning and the link between the economic units and the general plan.

Three: Foreign currencies and companies' ability to obtain them.

Four: Pricing and the economic unit's ability to price its own products.

As a result, the financial structure of many public sector companies became shaken, and strengthening and correcting these structures has become a vital and urgent matter.

Question: How do you view the economic situation and are you concerned or reassured about it?

Prime Minister: In this regard I would like only to speak in figures so as to show the amount of progress achieved in the economic sector. The reports indicate that the rate of local cash liquidity has decreased in comparison with the same period of the last fiscal year. During the first 9 months — July through March — of the 1982-1983 fiscal year the increase was 3.036 billion pounds, that is 20.1 percent, as against 3.331 billion pounds, that is an increase of 31 percent, during the same period of the previous year.

The trade balance deficit decreased by 57 percent against the same period last year. In March 1983 the deficit was 730 million pounds compared with 1.574 billion pounds in March 1982.

With regard to income from remittances of Egyptians abroad, monetary transfers increased from 442 million pounds in July through March of fiscal 1981-1982 to 1.574 billion pounds in July through March of fiscal 1982-1983.

Imports without currency transfers increased from 625.8 million pounds in July through March 1981-1982 to 1.038 billion in July through March 1982-1983.

Suez Canal revenues increased from 465 million pounds in July through March 1981-1982 to 503 million pounds during July through March 1982-1983.

In the first year development plan total production increased by 7.5 percent: commodity production 7.6 percent; agriculture 2.5 percent; industry 8.7 percent; construction 11 percent (under review).

We are forging ahead, progressing steadily, reasonably, and continuously. From this we derive our reassurance.

Economy Minister Returns From Baghdad Visit

NC161355 Cairo MENA in English 1320 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, August 16 (MENA) — Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr. Mustafa as-Sa'id returned here today from Baghdad after a four-day visit to Iraq where he handed over a message from President Husni Mubarak to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Dr. as-Sa'id also held talks with a number of Iraqi officials on means of consolidating bilateral relations.

Minister's Statement on Visit

NC161715 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1640 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 16 Aug (MENA) — Economy Minister Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, following his return from Baghdad today, said he is carrying an oral message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to President Husni Mubarak on the current situation in the Middle East and on the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. In an exclusive statement to MENA, Dr as-Sa'id discussed the results of his 4-day visit to Baghdad, saying it achieved its goals. He said the political leaderships in Egypt and Iraq have succeeded in surmounting all obstacles impeding the normalization of relations between the two countries. He affirmed that there are no longer pending problems between Egypt and Iraq in the field of trade.

Dr as-Sa'id further said that it has been decided to begin as of today the measures to reopen the trade centers in both Cairo and Baghdad — the same date the protocol on trade and financial cooperation was signed in Baghdad. He pointed out that the governors of the Egyptian and Iraqi Central Banks agreed to continue cooperation between the two countries and to ease the restrictions the Iraqi Government imposes on Egyptians' remittances. He said both governors also agreed that the remittances will be sent through the Ar-Rafidayn Bank in Iraq to its branch in Cairo and to the Alexandria Bank. He concluded his statement by saying that agreement was reached on increasing Egyptian textile exports to Iraq to $35 million and increasing Iraqi exports of sulphur and phosphate by the same amount. It was also agreed to establish international fairs in the Egyptian and Iraqi capitals.

MAY Says McFarlane's Mission Failed

PM161905 Cairo May in Arabic 15 Aug 83 p 2

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah article: "McFarlane's Mission"]

[Text] It appears that the mission of the new U.S. envoy to the Middle East ended the moment it began or has not gotten off the ground as yet. McFarlane has so far failed to make the Syrians budge from their demand for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon before the Syrians themselves will agree to withdraw from northern Lebanon. Also McFarlane has made no progress in persuading Israel to stick to a timetable for total withdrawal that could be a sufficient incentive for the Syrians to withdraw.

It is unfortunate for the U.S. envoy that from the beginning his mission clashed with events that do not inspire faith in the U.S. efforts. McFarlane arrived at the same moment the United States used the veto against a draft resolution submitted by the group of Arab countries to the Security Council condemning the barbaric actions which the Israelis are perpetrating against the Palestinians in Hebron. All the member-states supported the resolution, with the exception of the United States and Zaire. The U.S. delegate's excuse for rejecting the draft resolution was flimsy and unconvincing. It was based on the claim that the measures Israel has adopted in Hebron do not aim at making the Palestinians leave their lands, despite the fact that Israel itself does not conceal its intention of achieving this objective.

The second event was the statements which Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens and his colleague Foreign Minister Shamir made following their return from Washington. These statements, which were not denied by the U.S. side, confirm that the purpose of the meetings in Washington was to consolidate the U.S.-Israeli coordination in Lebanon and to agree on a unified strategy in the Middle East. It was observed that following this visit there was a renewed demand by some U.S. senators for the return of the Egyptian ambassador in Tel Aviv. This demand shows these senators' ignorance of what is going on in the area and their misjudgement of how far the United States can interfere in internal matters in which nobody has the right to interfere.

The third event is that all the indications are that Israel intends to remain in Lebanon by force. Confirmed reports indicate that the Israeli forces withdrawing from the Ash-Shuf mountain to the Al-'Awwali River have begun building strong fortifications and defense lines, which goes to show that these forces' stay in the area is in no way temporary.

Finally the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon and the fighting between the Druze militias and the Phalangist militias, as well as between the Druze and the Lebanese Army, add a new dimension to the failure of the U.S. policy in Lebanon. The U.S. line was to try to persuade Al-Jumayyil's government to devote its efforts to straightening out the sectarian situation between the Phalangists, the Muslims, and the Druze, instead of insisting on the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon first.

But recent developments have proved that both objectives should be achieved simultaneously. National unity in Lebanon cannot

be achieved without the withdrawal of foreign forces, just as the withdrawal of foreign forces cannot be achieved without Lebanese national consensus.

AL-AHALI Reports Formation of New Political Party

WA161736 Cairo Al-Ahali in Arabic 27 Jul 83 p 10

[Text] Kamal Ahmad, former People's Assembly member, announced that he will submit an official application to the Parties Committee to establish a Nasirite political party.

Continued Coverage of Fighting With Iran

Communique No 1,188

JN161650 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Communique No. 1,188 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 16 August 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

In order to preserve the pride and territorial integrity of Iraq and to keep aloft the banners of the Iraqis, the soldiers of truth and principles, the sons of our armed forces are continuing their triumphant operations at the front against the forces of the covetous, rancorous Khomeyniite clique. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Last night our forward units attacked a group of enemy soldiers opposite our positions in the central sector of the front, killing six enemy soldiers and wounding several others. Our units destroyed two stockpiles of hardware, one infantry position, and one observation post in another area of the same sector.

2. All day today our army helicopters continued their fierce attacks against enemy positions, units, and troop concentrations opposite our forward positions in the northern sector of the front,scoring direct, effective hits and inflicting heavy losses on enemy vehicles and weapons. Several enemy positions and some equipment were set on fire. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Using various weapons, our forward units opened fire at a number of enemy vehicles and troop concentrations in the area opposite our forces east of Basra, destroying five excavators and one bulldozer, and setting some equipment and a number of enemy positions on fire.

4. Yesterday, more Iranian soldiers with their weapons sought refuge with our units in the northern sector of the front, escaping the terror of the sanguinary Khomeyni regime. They were all tranferred to the rear in peace and safety. An enemy vehicle was destroyed in another area of the same sector.

5. One stockpile of hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 August 1983.

Egyptian Minister As-Sa'id Concludes Baghdad Visit

Mubarak Letter to Husayn

JN141204 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1042 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Aug (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received a letter from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak dealing with bilateral relations and the means of promoting cooperation between the two countries in various fields, and strengthening the spirit of brotherhood and cooperation among the Arab brothers. The letter was delivered by Mustafa as-Sa'id, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade, who was received by the president today.

During the meeting, President Saddam Husayn stressed the need for and importance of strengthening Arab solidarity by all possible means to enable the Arab nation to confront the challenges facing it. On his part, the Egyptian minister asserted that Iraq's war with the Iranian enemy is the Arab nation's battle, adding that the Egyptian people and government stand by Iraq against this aggression.

The meeting was attended by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im, director of the president's office.

Joint Cooperation Agreement Signed

JN161021 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Aug (INA) — Iraq and Egypt today signed joint minutes on the results of their economic and trade cooperation talks which were held from 12-16 August. The minutes were signed for Iraq by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and for Egypt by Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade.

The minutes contain clauses on the two fraternal countries' agreement to settle all the suspended financial and banking affairs in their common interest and on facilitating the transfer of the funds of the Egyptian brothers working in Iraq. The minutes also provide for the two sides' participation in the international fairs and markets set up in the two countries as deemed appropriate to each of the two countries' policies. The two sides also agreed to reopen the Iraqi trade center in Cairo and the Egyptian trade center in Baghdad, to apply the provisions of full exemption from custom duties of the commodities exchanged between the two countries, and to diversify and promote the two countries' exports.

The members of the Iraqi and Egyptian sides attended the signing ceremony.

As-Sa'id Makes Statement, Departs

JN161105 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Aug (INA) — Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade, and his delegation left Baghdad today at the end of a 5-day visit to Iraq.

The Egyptian minister told INA that during the visit the two sides concluded a number of agreements in various fields, particularly in the field of trade exchange between the two fraternal countries. He added that they agreed to specify a number of exchanged commodities whose value is not less than $35 million a year, and to allow for trade exchange beyond this value according to the needs of each of the two countries. The minister indicated that the results of this visit as represented in cooperation in the banking and financial spheres — particularly between the Egyptian and Iraqi central banks and Ar-Rafidayn and Alexandria banks — express the new spirit permeating

relations between the two peoples and governments and stand for the genuineness of Arab solidarity and cooperation.

In conclusion, he said that agreement has been reached with Iraqi officials on settling all suspended affairs, including the rights of the Iraqi national oil company and the Egyptian airline company. As-Sa'id had also met with Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister; and the trade, planning, and finance ministers.

Ambassador Confers With 'Arafat in San'a'
JN161157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1135 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] San'a', 16 Aug (INA) — The Iraqi ambassador in San'a' today met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The two sides discussed the outstanding relations between Iraq and the PLO and reviewed various Arab issues, particularly those pertaining to the developments of the Palestine question.

Finance Minister Dismissed, Replacement Named
GF141654 Baghdad Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text of Presidential Decree No 634]

[Text] In accordance with the provisions of Clause D of Article 58 of the provisional constitution, the following has been decided:

First, Thamir Razzuqi is relieved of the post of minister of finance. Second, Hisham Hasan Tawfiq is appointed minister of finance.

Baghdad, 5 Dhu al-Qi-Dah 1403 Hegira, 14 August 1983.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, President of the Republic

King Husayn Addresses Citizens in Ma'an
JN161750 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Ma'an, 16 Aug (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn has said that Jordan has always been proud of its sublime pan-Arab message and its correct national principles. He added that Jordan has also proven the soundness of its methods and its true belonging to the Arab nation, as well as its loyalty and commitment to that nation's message, agreements, and charters regardless of the burdens and consequences. He also said that the safety of the internal front and the citizens' awareness were a firm base and a solid rock upon which all the dangers and challenges throughout the Arab struggle in Palestine, Iraq, and in every pan-Arab battle had been crushed.

In a speech during his meeting with the citizens in Ma'an today, his majesty said: The standards we have achieved in the fields of education, higher education, and basic services, as well as work opportunities place before all of us — citizens and officials — a greater challenge which requires us to achieve more development and construction, exploit Jordan's wealth, cultivate its mountains and plains, preserve its nature, and safeguard its heritage, antiquities, and history.

His majesty added: Today, we are direly need to epitomize the meanings of good citizenship in the service of our cities and villages, and to preserve our roads, airports, tourist sites, and all the facilities of life in our country. He also affirmed that Jordan has always adhered to its principles — principles of the loyalists — and is still adhering to its path — the path of sincere and honest people — and that the free, noble Jordanian people are one family whose members are treated equally as far as rights and duties are concerned. Nothing other than law and order has supremacy over them.

They also enjoy equal opportunities in all walks of life —stability, security, and safety. The government is responsible for serving them and providing them with the means for a decent life. No citizen is preferred to another citizen except when that citizen serves his country by his efforts and sacrifices.

FRG Delegation Concludes Amman Visit
JN171040 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 17 Aug 83 p 24

[Text] Amman — The FRG parliamentary delegation led by Hans-Jurgen Wischnewski, deputy chairman of the foreign relations committee of the FRG Parliament, left Amman yesterday for the occupied West Bank, concluding a visit of several days toJordan, during which it met with His Majesty King Husayn, the speaker of the National Consultative Council, and the information and foreign ministers.

In the West Bank, the delegation will meet with a number of mayors and Palestinian functionaries.

West Bank Village League's Charter Assailed
JN130738 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 13 Aug 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Suspect Charter," Ar-Ra'y says: What the agent village leagues in the West Bank intend to declare is not a national charter but a charter of agents which will disgrace those who are involved with its formulation, declaration, and propagation. The charter is an umbrella which Israel has been awaiting for a long time to give these leagues a political imprint and to present them as a replacement for the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territory — who have known what the leagues are really like since their appearance and therefore have isolated and denounced them — will certainly not be deceived by the charter, the expressions, or the slogans which the leagues are preparing, even if they are formulated in a beguiling style. All the people there realize their responsibilities and adhere to the PLO.

It is time those who encourage dissidence against the PLO's leadership realized that they are opening the way for and giving the opportunity to the agent village leagues to create a political presence for themselves and to enter the arena as a concerned party. This dangerous outcome, if achieved, will lead to a great setback which will hurt the cause. Nobody can now seek excuses. Those who are really concerned about the cause have to support the PLO so it will regain its unity, and abort the leagues' conspiracy and the charter of agentry which these leagues are getting ready to declare.

Al-Jumayyil Confers With Al-Wazzan, Al-As'ad

NC161832 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Following the expanded meeting of the Chamber of Deputies, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan at 1800 today. Part of the meeting was devoted to discussing the outcome of the contacts that the ministerial committee — assigned by the Cabinet — is holding with the various Lebanese sides for the sake of enhancing the unity of the Lebanese ranks. The meeting between the president and the prime minister lasted 2 hours, during which they assessed the ongoing contacts. Prime Minister al-Wazzan is currently visiting Mufti Khalid.

After Prime Minister al-Wazzan's departure from the palace, President al-Jumayyil received Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad within the context of his weekly visits. They reviewed the progress so far made by the contacts on all levels. The discussions focused on the mission of the Jordanian and Saudi envoys in light of the contents of the two letters to the president from the Jordanian and Saudi monarchs, which conveyed the two kingdoms' support for the government's move. President al-Jumayyil and Speaker al-As'ad then assessed the security situation in light of the attack to which the Lebanese Army in Kafr Matta was exposed.

Higher Liaison Committee Meets 16 August

NC161306 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Higher Liaison Committee held its periodic meeting at noon today in the Republican Palace in the presence of the Italian and the U.S. ambassadors, the French and the British charge d'affaires, the commanders of the multinational force, and the Lebanese officers team. Staff Major General Engineer Habib Faris, the coordinator general of the Higher Liaison Committee, chaired the meeting on behalf of the president.

At the beginning of the meeting, Staff Colonel Rahmah, chief of the military operations room in the Republican Palace, presented a report on the security situation in the country, focusing on the recent measures the government has adopted at various levels. These measures have been translated into a relative security relaxation in the field.

Maj Gen Faris then briefed the conferees on the general political atmosphere and the government's efforts at both the domestic and foreign levels as well as the contacts that are being made with the parties concerned to calm the situation and prepare a suitable climate so that the Army can deploy to fill any vacuum which may result from the withdrawals.

The meeting is within the framework of Lebanese-U.S. diplomatic efforts, which have made long strides and about which signs are appearing promising the possibility of specific solutions that will have a positive effect on the situation in Lebanon. The most prominent of these signs is today's resumption of operations at Beirut Airport after a closure of 6 days.

Meanwhile, U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane arrived in Israel from Lebanon today for talks with Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche, who led the Israeli delegation to the negotiations with Lebanon.

Richard Fairbanks left Beirut and is expected to arrive in Damascus tomorrow. His visit was postponed because Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was indisposed.

Jordan, Saudi Arabia Propose Political Dialogue

NC170732 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] AFP, citing Jordanian and Lebanese sources in Amman, says that Jordan and Saudi Arabia have proposed to President al-Jumayyil that he initiate a political dialogue with the principal political leaders, as this would likely lead to an agreement and would consequently pave the way for the Army's deployment in the mountain areas. AFP adds that such an agreement may contain a formula according to which the Socialists will enjoy the same privileges as the Phalangists and the Lebanese Forces enjoy in East Beirut and Kasrawan. AFP says that the National Salvation Front will also take part in this dialogue.

According to AFP, the sources said that the Saudi and Jordanian mediation has contributed to reopening Beirut Airport, adding that Junblatt's undertaking — that his forces will not shell the airport as long as the airport is not used as a staging point for launching military operations against them — is a positive political initiative that would be a prelude for holding a national dialogue.

Junblatt To Hold Talks in Damascus, North

NC170611 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Informed political sources have indicated that [Progressive Socialist Party leader] Walid Junblatt will arrive in Damascus today for talks with the Syrian officials. He will later visit northern Lebanon for a meeting with [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

The discussions will focus on the current developments and on the outcome of his talks in Damascus, Amman, and Jidda, which specifically touched on the partial Israeli withdrawal, the national accord, and the objectives of Arens' visit to Beirut.

Al-Jumayyil Envoy to Junblatt Arrives in Syria

JN162046 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Mrs Khawlah Arslan arrived in Damascus today to meet with Walid Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah who will arrive in Damascus this evening. She will maintain contacts between Junblatt and Lebanese President al-Jumayyil.

Highlights of Arens' Visit, Press Conference

NC161345 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens held a press conference this morning at the Israeli army's information center in Al-Yarzi. He emphasized that Israel wants to withdraw from all Lebanon and that the redeployment of its forces is a part of the total evacuation.

Before elaborating on what the Israeli minister said, we point out the importance of this visit. This is the first time that the Israeli defense minister has paid an official and overt visit to Beirut amidst important political and security developments. The most important developments are: the U.S. initiative's stumbling in the direction of Syria and the U.S. tone rising against Damascus, which continues to refuse to withdraw from Lebanon; the continuation of the Socialist attacks in the mountain with clear Syrian support; and the talk about a qualitative change in the Lebanese-Israeli relations through the activation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the development of these relations in light of the latest political and security developments. We will listen now to extracts of what Arens said at his press conference in his own voice in English:

[Begin recording] [Arens] Good morning. Thank you for coming to meet with me here this morning. I am pleased to be visiting Beirut for the purpose of meeting with some leading Lebanese citizens. I wish to start by expressing the concern [words indistinct] by all of Israel's citizens for Lebanon and for the people of Lebanon because of the [words indistinct] in Lebanon. We are very concerned by the recent incidents which have taken place between Druze and Christians, between Druze militias and the Lebanese Army. We are hopeful that every effort will be made to arrive at an accommodation which will prevent bloodletting in the area and will allow peace and stability to (?come) to Lebanon.

We in Israel are very surprised at statements that are occasionally made here in Lebanon that it is Israel's intention to partition Lebanon. We have no such intentions and to make it crystal clear [words indistinct], I will read the statement that I understand it is going distributed to you later on. [end recording]

Answering reporters' questions, Arens said Israel would not bear the responsibility for what would happen in the Ash-Shuf after its withdrawal from there, and that the Lebanese Army and authority would be responsible for maintaining law and order in Lebanon. He added that following the Israeli forces withdrawal from Ash-Shuf, the patch of territory under the control of the Lebanese Government would increase. Arens explained that his country cannot provide a withdrawal timetable because this question requires a study and action with the Lebanese Army. However, he pointed out that Israel was prepared to work for reaching an understanding in the mountain. He denied that the Israeli forces supply arms to the inhabitants of the areas under their control, saying that Israel does not encourage any military action in the areas under its control and tries to prevent military actions as much as possible.

Further on Press Conference

NC161426 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens today visited the Israeli office in Al-Yarzi. He met with reporters and read a statement in English.

Following the statement, a dialogue took place between Professor Arens and the reporters. The following are the highlights of the dialogue.

Arens said: We are preparing to withdraw from the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh in the near future. We would like this to take place within a framework of coordination with the Lebanese Army. We also find it necessary that the Lebanese Government should reach a settlement with the Druze inhabitants and ascertain that there would be no clashes after the IDF's withdrawal from the area. We are exerting our utmost to help the Army and to find a settlement between the Druze and Christians.

Asked whether Israel is trying to exert pressure on the Socialists, Arens said: We are not in a position permitting us to exert pressure on political organizations in Lebanon. What we can do is to use our good offices.

Arens denied that Israel distributes weapons to the inhabitants in its spheres of influence. He said these claims are wrong and untrue.

Arens was then asked: Why didn't you stop the airport's shelling? He answered: There are large quantities of arms in the area and it is difficult, or rather it is impossible, to stop subversive activities.

Asked if the IDF had indirectly supported the Socialists in resisting the Lebanese Army in Kafr Matta and 'Bayh, the defense minister said: The IDF is not a party to the disputes. What we intend is coordination with the Lebanese Army and no other party.

Arens expressed his belief that McFarlane's mission in Syria is not easy and that it will require some time. He said: Basically, this role is the duty of the Lebanese Government and people. The Lebanese authorities explained that the continued Syrian presence in Lebanon is a usurpation of Lebanese sovereignty. He added: If Lebanon earns the support of some world countries, particlarly in the Arab world, then the Syrians would decide to leave Lebanon sooner or later. I do not believe that a dialogue with one person — he means McFarlane — will persuade them to leave.

Arens further said: What is happening in Lebanon constitutes a physical danger to the inhabitants of the northern area in Israel. We constitute a strong support for the central Lebanese Government. We want to live in friendship with the Lebanese Government and people. This means the establishment of friendship and understanding with all the religious creeds and [word indistinct] societies in Lebanon. He pointed out that the Druze community

in Israel plays an important role in the Israeli defense system, and that it is concerned with and interested in the safety and life of the Druze community in Lebanon. On this premise, he said, we are doing our utmost to reach some kind of understanding in the Ash-Shuf. We have done good work in the area, where we safeguarded the safety of thousands of inhabitants. The three ministers were released as a result of the IDF's efforts.

Minister Arens said he will meet with some Lebanese leaders and officials to discuss various joint issues, particularly in the light of the Israeli withdrawal from certain areas.

Asked if he met with Marwan Hamadah, Arens said: I prefer not to give you any details about any meetings that I will hold or intend to hold. He was then asked: What has taken place between you and Hamadah? He countered by a smile which made reporters come to the conclusion that the meeting has actually taken place. Through contact by his office with the Voice of Lebanon, Marwan Hamadah denied that he met with Minister Arens.

Camille Sham'un Meets Arens

NC161810 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Lebanese Forces sources have described the meeting held between [Israeli Defense Minister] Arens and Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram as positive. The sources said that Arens visited the Lebanese Forces Command where he was saluted by a joint force of military police and soldiers. Arens then placed a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier.

This evening Arens met with [former] President Camille Sham'un and discussed with him the question of Israeli withdrawal from the mountain. After the meeting President Sham'un said: Mr Arens emphasized to us that the Israelis want to withdraw from the mountain in a few weeks' time, pointing out that they do not wish to withdraw while they are in dispute with the Lebanese authorities. They also want the Lebanese Army to take over the security responsibilities in the mountain and to prevent any incidents from happening there afterward. Arens affirmed that the Israelis are prepared to provide any assistance in this respect but, in the meantime, they want somebody to talk to.

President Sham'un said: On our part, it is of interest to us that they withdraw, that the Lebanese Army enter, and that its entry mark the end of all incidents on the mountain. On his part, Arens said that he was happy and that the visit was very good.

VOL: Syrian Defense Minister Visits Al-Biqa'

NC161548 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Sources of the Lebanese Forces describe the meeting between [Israeli Defense Minister] Arens and Commander of the Lebanese Forces Fadi Afram as positive.

While Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens was inspecting the Israeli positions in the mountain and holding a press conference and meetings at the headquarters in Al-Yarzi, Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas entered Al-Biqa' via Al-Masna' at 1100 today. At 1200 he began a tour of the Syrian positions in the central and northern sectors.

Franjiyah Denounces Abduction Incident

NC170914 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Statement to the press by former President Sulayman Franjiyah at his summer palace in Ihdin on 16 August — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] This week Lebanon witnessed an unprecedented incident — the abducton of ministers. This act was denounced by every Lebanese citizen. We, for our part, strongly denounce it. Praise be to our God Almighty that the ministers are in good health. On this occasion, I kindly ask the three ministers, who experienced the danger of abduction and whose families greatly suffered during their abduction period, to defend the hundreds of abducted Lebanese who hae been thrown in prisons and cells without trial.

Also this week, Beirut International Airport was closed. Why and how? We actually heard nothing from the officials to enlighten the Lebanese people as to why the airport was closed. The officials aid a shell hit the airport runway. But was the shell enough to intimidate the officials and prompt them to close the airport? It is common knowledge that shells are daily falling over the heads of the Lebanese people and on defenseless areas. But the government officials never reacted to this phenomena. For months now aliens have been shelling the sons of the Ash-Shuf. We all know that these aliens belong to the Phalangist gang. Why then this silence? Does this treacherous silence mean that this gang enjoys all rights to carry out acts of killing, sabotage, looting, and thefts, and that others have no right to defend themselves?

Yesterday, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, may God protect him, granted an interview to *The Washington Post*. I wish every Lebanese would read this interview and would compare what President al-Asad has said about the presence of the Syrian forces in Lebanon and what the official Lebanese media says on the same issue. There is no doubt that the Lebanese citizen will see how lies and falsehoods are imposed on his society. It is enough for His Excellency President al-Asad to declare through the pages of world newspapers that Syria has no interest in Lebanon. We hope that all the Arab leaders will follow the course of this great president, whose plans are always in service of his generous people. Therefore, we hope the official media will stop this cheap trade.

Soviet Ambassador Says Foreign Forces Must Leave

NC161222 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov has said that Lebanon must be a free, independent, and united

country and that all foreign forces must leave its territory.

Soldatov made this statement after meeting today with the Foreign Ministry secretary general, Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk, in the presence of political affairs director Ambassador Khalil Makkawi and the Soviet Embassy's first counselor (Yuri Soslikov.)

Answering a question about whether the Soviet Union has a specific stand to help Lebanon to ensure withdrawal from its territory, Ambassador Soldatov said: Our stance is frank and clear. We outlined our stand at the United Nations and in our meetings with Lebanese officials.

The Soviet Union believes that the Israeli forces are the aggressors and their withdrawal must be absolute and unconditional. Concerning the other foreign forces, these must also leave Lebanon. Lebanon must be a free, independent, and a united country.

Clashes Reported in Tripoli, Mountain Area
NC161840 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] It has been reported from the north that intermittent clashes took place between 1300 and 1530 today in the areas of Bab at-Tabbanah, Ba'l Muhsin al-Wati and Qal'at al-'Amri in Tripoli and in Az-Zahiriyah between the [Islamic] Unification Movement on one side and the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and the 24 October Movement on the other. Rockets and machineguns were used in the clashes.

In the mountain, the positions on the axes of 'Aytat and Suq al-Gharb exchanged machinegun fire and rockets from 1745 to 1830. No casualties have been reported.

Israelis Reportedly Thin Out Forces in Mountain
NC162144 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Israeli forces today thinned out their presence in the Ash-Shuf, particularly in B'aqlin, where they withdrew some of their vehicles from the city, keeping only a few personnel in their headquarters there. The Israeli forces also thinned their vehicles at the approach to Dayr al-Qamar from Kafr Him.

In return, the Israeli forces have reinforced their presence in the (Nar' an-Nada) area and Jazzin. The reason for their reinforcements is that the said line constitutes the first defense line to which the Israeli forces will withdraw within the framework of their redeployment.

In the south, the Israelis have begun to install a radar and an early warning station on (tallat As-Sarwaniyah).

Israeli convoys were seen moving from the mountain toward Sidon. A part of the convoy was deployed in the Jazzin area, while other parts headed toward An-Nabatiyah.

Israelis Dismantle Ad-Damur Camp 16 August
NC161433 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Unidentified radio correspondent's dispatch from 'south Lebanon' on 16 Aug — recorded]

[Text] According to security reports, the Israeli forces have completed dismantling their Ad-Damur camp installations. The camp was considered the most important command center and assembly point for soldiers and vehicles because it was close to a military airfield. The camp had about 700 soldiers. The prefabricated houses and hangars that were used as warehouses for machines, motors, electric cables, maintenance equipment, and food supplies have been dismantled. Israeli transports have been seen transporting the equipment and materiel through the city of Sidon heading south.

Meanwhile, the Israeli forces have completed the installation of a radio communications and warning station on the Ash-Shar'awniyah hill in the lower Ash-Shuf alongside the Al-'Awwali River near the Arqash factory. This station commands the coastal route between Sidon and Al-Jiyah and the villages in the lower Ash-Shuf.

The Israeli forces yesterday arrested a number of Sidon citizens, including Khalid Shams ad-Din, Bassam Hashishu, Taysir Arna'ut, and Ahmad Abu Sultaniyah, for interrogation. The reason for their arrest is not yet known.

VOL on Syrian Intelligence Operations Room
NC161507 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has obtained information related to a new Syrian plan of action which the new commander of the Syrian intelligence in Lebanon, Colonel Ghazi Kan'an, intends to implement. According to this information, Colonel Kan'an is personally supervising an operations room, labeled as the Beirut room, for the purpose of directing the military, informational, and political moves of the parties that sympathize with Syria in Lebanon. In the room there is a map of Lebanon, showing the areas in which the pro-Syrian elements are present, the scope of their movement, and the means to supply them with arms and ammunition and the necessary directives.

The information adds that the military objective of establishing this room is represented by the adoption of various means to confuse the Lebanese authorities through carrying out explosions here and there to make one believe that there is no security in Beirut and that the Army is incapable of providing protection to the citizens. The room's informational objective is to instigate the pro-Syrian parties to attack the Lebanese officials, just as the Syrian information media are doing. As for the political objective, it is to adopt the policy of exaggerating negative aspects and exploit contradictions in accordance with a studied plan and through coordination among the various Communist movements and the pro-Syrian Palestinian organizations.

KUNA: Lebanese Phalangist Radio in Paris Closed
LD161407 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1142 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Paris, 13 Aug (KUNA) — The Director of the Lebanese Phalangist office in Paris, Fu'ad Malik was summoned to the French Foreign Ministry yesterday where he was told that the radio station which the office operates in the French capital must abide by the legislation governing private radio stations, it was stated here today.

Fu'ad Malik operates the "Radio of the Voice of Cedar" [Idha'at Sawt al-'Arz] which broadcasts in the name of the Phalangists from Paris. The French authorities have not allocated any frequency for the station and it was for that reason the station's broadcasting is being stopped.

The French action means that other such radio stations in the area of Paris will have to close down.

French sources pointed out that the French authorities have told Malik that the Phalangist radio must secure a license prior to transmitting from Paris.

Khaddam Holds Talks With PLO Delegation
JN162052 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 16 Aug (SANA) — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received here today the PLO Central Council [PCC] delegation which comprises a number of the PCC members.

During this meeting, the situation in the region was reviewed as well as the situation in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas, particularly that which is related to the conflict within Fatah. Means of preserving the unity of the PLO groups and Fatah movement were also reviewed.

A number of the PCC members praised Syria's pan-Arab role and continued support for the Palestine question. They also expressed appreciation of and pride in Syria's steadfastness against imperialist and Zionist designs, considering it the principal base for liberation.

Az-Zu'bi Returns From Moscow; Makes Statement
JN170615 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] The People's Assembly delegation, led by its Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi, returned to Damascus last night at the end of an official and cordial visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

In a statement upon arrival in Damascus, the People's Assembly speaker said: Our visit to the friendly USSR was useful and successful. It came within the framework of the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the Soviet Union. During this visit we became acquainted with the tremendous accomplishments that were achieved due to this friendly country's socialist system. This visit, with the warm reception accorded to our delegation and with the results it produced, was a clear indication of the depth of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. The visit was also a new assertion of the great appreciation the USSR's leadership and people harbor for Syria and its principled, steadfast stand against the imperialist U.S. schemes to dominate the region and against the hostile, expansionist Zionist policy.

There was a special appreciation of President Hafiz al-Asad's distinguished role in leading the Arab movement of struggle for liberation and construction.

A joint statement on this visit will be issued in Damascus and Moscow tomorrow, Thursday.

AL-BA'TH Comments on Arens' Visit to Beirut
JN170805 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 17 Aug 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's editorial the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* comments on Arens' visit to Beirut and his attempts to impose a new fait accompli. It says: The visit that Zionist war Minister Arens paid to Beirut yesterday and the press conference he held have completely blown up all the declared objectives of U.S. presidential envoy McFarlane's tour. Washington had earlier said that its envoy's tour aims at settling the Lebanese issue and alleviating tension in the region.

Arens went to Beirut and blared out hostile threats against Syria from Al-Yarzi, which is located near the presidential palace in B'abda. What does this mean? Does it mean that Washington is really working for the alleviation of tension or for its flare-up?

Al-Ba'th adds: The least that can be said about Arens' visit to Beirut is that it means defiance not only of the Lebanese and Syrian peoples and the Arab nation, but also of the U.S. Administration itself which is acting as a mediator to solve the crisis. However, it seems that Reagan's administration is not unaware of this visit and its aims. It can be said that it is behind the visit and behind the threats made in Beirut against Syria.

Al-Ba'th continues: The U.S. Administration, which has so far failed to impose the contract of submission on the Lebanese people despite all the pressures it exercised either directly or through its special channels, has — as is noticeable — begun a new phase of its policy. Arens' visit to Beirut, in addition to the U.S.-Egyptian joint military exercises, are only a part of an integrated plan aimed not only at imposing the contract of submission but also at ensuring absolute U.S. hegemony over the region.

The paper asserts: Had the partners to the contract of submission not agreed to the Zionist minister's visit to Beirut, Arens would not have been able to arrive in Beirut and threaten Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces from there. The Zionist minister, who held his press conference near the office of the head of state, Amin al-Jumayyil, called for further coordination between the Israeli forces and the Lebanese Army in order to confront and liquidate the Lebanese nationalist resistance. Arens' visit to Beirut also coincided with some Israeli and U.S. statements which clearly indicate that a new phase is now under implementation.

U.S. envoy McFarlane held talks with Israel on guaranteeing the redeployment of the Israeli forces in Lebanon. Moreover, Zionist official Eliyahu Ben-Elisar stressed that the Israeli forces will remain in Lebanon and that the U.S. Administration supports this Israeli stand.

Concluding, Al-Ba'th says: The Zionist minister's visit to Beirut emphasized that the Lebanese regime no longer has any relationship with Lebanon — the homeland and people. The Lebanese nationalist forces were right when they said that confronting and toppling the regime have become an urgent national and pan-Arab matter for the sake of preserving Lebanon — the homeland and people. The new moves of the partners to the contract of submission aim, as is clear, not only at imposing this agreement on Lebanon and its people, but also at imposing a new fait accompli on the region. Although it is difficult to predict what may happen, launching a new aggression to effectuate this new change is most likely.

ATH-THAWRAH Calls for Lebanese National Accord

JN141350 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 14 Aug (SANA) —In its today's editorial *Ath-Thawrah says: While it previously ignored the voice of* nationalist Lebanon and the appeals and legitimate demands of the nationalist forces which have warned of the danger of falling into Washington's lap and continuing to play the game of deception and maneuvering, the Lebanese regime today cannot continue with this stupidity, because all circumstances and equations which existed in Lebanon and the region have changed.

Ath-Thawrah clarifies: U.S. envoy McFarlane himself has admitted that he could not make any progress toward settlement of the Lebanese problem. The initiative has moved into the hands of nationalist Lebanon which has begun to play an active role and to strongly affect the current situation.

Ath-Thawrah wonders: Will the Lebanese regime go back on the course of maneuvering and deception and decide to prepare the circumstances for a real national accord which is capable of saving Lebanon from the tunnel, or will it continue to revolve around the U.S.-Israeli orbit on the pretext that it is able to achieve its objectives through this course?

Ath-Thawrah concludes: Regardless of the reply, the winds which have begun to blow in Lebanon and the Middle East this time will be burning and violent. They will straighten out matters and liberate Lebanon from the Israeli occupation and U.S. hegemony.

Salvation Front Adopts Socialists' Proposals

JN140706 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus — The Lebanese National Salvation Front has adopted the 10 demands presented to the Lebanese regime by the Progressive Socialist Party. In a statement yesterday, the front's spokesman said that if these demands are met, there will be serious progress toward national reconciliation. Commenting on the recent activities in the mountain, the spokesman wondered if President Amin al-Jumayyil would continue to live in a world of illusions, forgetting the current developments and insisting on pushing the country toward an all-out civil war as a result of his adherence to the Phalangist's sectarian, fascist methods.

The spokesman asserted that the majority of the Lebanese people look forward to realizing a national reconciliation to force Israel to withdraw its invading forces unconditionally.

Popular Army Commander Receives Polish Official

JN151550 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1405 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 15 Aug (SANA) — Popular Army Commander Muhammad Ibrahim al-'Ali received here today Polish National Defense Vice Minister Tadeusz Tuczapski, who had arrived in Damascus early this morning on an official visit to Syria. He welcomed the guest delegation members and briefed them on the popular Army and the duties entrusted to it both during peace and war.

Al-'Ali also said that the savage imperialist-Zionist onslaught to which Syria is being exposed makes it incumbent on us to prepare all the citizens to defend themselves and protect their homeland. Therefore, the Popular Army is considered a force of support for the regular army. He also asserted Syria's support for the Palestinian revolution, and stressed the importance of cohesion between Syria and the Palestinian revolution to foil all the conspiracies. He also praised the existing relations between Syria and the socialist bloc countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union.

In his reply, the head of the Polish delegation stressed the importance of the existing friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries, the Polish people's support for the Syrian Arab people against Zionism and imperialism, and the Polish people's support for the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their national and legitimate rights. Regarding the situation in Poland, he also said that the party and the government are determined to confront all the imperialist designs, which aim at dealing a blow to the unity of the Polish people, and to protect the socialist gains.

IDF's Levi Says Redeployment 'Matter of Days'

TA161629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi has said that Israel has already fixed a date for the IDF's redployment in Lebanon, and that it is now only a matter of days. However Levi, who was speaking at a meeting with foreign journalists in Israel, declined to reveal the date.

In response to a question, he said that in his view the Lebanese Army will be able to take control of the territory Israel evacuates provided it adopts the right approach. At the same time, he stated that Israel is willing to continue doing all it can to help establish peace between the rival factions. He said that Israel would not make agreements with the Druze or Christians prior to its withdrawal from the area since that would be unfair. We will not bear any responsibility for the territory we are going to evacuate, the chief of staff said.

Further on Levi Remarks

TA161848 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Israel's Chief of Staff Moshe Levi was speaking to the foreign press association in Tel Aviv. More from Alan Ben-'Ami.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] The chief of staff was not prepared to give an exact date for the start of the redeployment but he made it clear that Israeli soldiers will be pulling out of Beirut and the Ash-Shuf areas soon.

[Levi] We are ready to redeploy our forces. I could say it is a question of days, and what we are trying now to achieve, for the benefit of all parties, is more coordination with the Lebanese Government, with the Lebanese Army — maybe through the Lebanese Army by the multinational forces so that redeployment will also be smooth for the Government of Lebanon. I think the best for both sides is to do it — to take over, not in steps and not by phases, but doing it in one piece.

[Ben-'Ami] Lt Gen Levi said that Israel will not be responsible for events in the Ash-Shuf once the troops move out. He urged the Lebanese authorities to seize the opportunity being offered to them now to extend their authority there. The Lebanese Army, he said, was capable of taking over the territory Israel is leaving.

[Levi] I really believe they can do it in this piece of land that we are going to evacuate now. I really believe they can do it if they have the right approach, for example, by not hesitating.

[Ben-'Ami] Even after the redeployment, the chief of staff said, Israeli forces in Lebanon will still face problems.

[Levi] I am sure that we are going to face problems — terrorists' problems, maybe some other problems. Do not forget the Syrians. They are still in Lebanon, and [we are] confronting each other. So we are not looking at this redeployment as a miracle that will solve all our problems.

[Ben-'Ami] According to defense sources tonight, Israeli troops will not begin their redeployment before the start of next month. [end recording]

Comments on POW Exchange

TA170635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Speaking in Tel Aviv yesterday, the chief of staff, General Moshe Levi, said Israel remains ready to start negotiations anywhere about exchanging the Israeli prisoners for 300 Syrian soldiers and some 5,000 Palestinians being held by Israel:

[Begin recording] I don't think the problem is about the details of what we can give in order to get them, and to get the information about the missing, because when you negotiate you can come to an agreement, and it's been known for months that we are ready to negotiate.

I don't think we are talking about direct negotiations. It was said that we are going to negotiate. We have mediators, and there isthe Red Cross and some other people around the world that are willing to do it all the time, so I don't think the problem is direct or indirect talks. The problem is how to achieve the results of these talks. [end recording]

U.S. Envoy McFarlane Meets With David Kimche

TA161138 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] We have already reported that U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane and his aides met this morning with the Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche and officials of the ministry to discuss an arrangement on the Lebanese issue. Our correspondent Hayim Zissovitch updates us for the moment.

The talk lasted for 2 hours and 30 minutes, and ended 30 minutes ago. At 1500 local time, both sides will again meet for a continuation of the talks. Our correspondent also reports that the talks with McFarlane were mainly concentrated today on arrangements that will guarantee the redeployment in Lebanon. McFarlane stated, during the talks, that he was concerned more than he had been up to now. He also reported that his aide, Richard Fairbanks, would soon be returning to Damascus for a continuation of the talks about the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon.

Syrian Attempt To Advance Positions Stopped

TA161237 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 16 Aug 83 p 1

[Report by Mikha'el Garti]

[Text] Yesterday IDF soldiers foiled another attempt by the Syrian Army to advance its positions on the front line in the western Al-Biqa' region of Lebanon. Yesterday morning, soldiers in an IDF position in the area of 'Ammiq noticed Syrian soldiers had begun to establish new positions outside the territory under their control. The soldiers from the IDF position opened fire over

the heads of the Syrian soldiers, who stopped their work and returned to their lines.

It will be noted that since the beginning of the summer there have been several incidents against the background of a Syrian Army attempt to "creep" forward and improve its positions in the Lebanese Al-Biqa', especially in the eastern zone, where it is suffering from topographical inferiority.

An explosive charge that had been placed at the side of the road went off yesterday at about 1200, local time, in the ('Ayn ad-Dayshah) region south of the Az-Zahrani River. There were no casualties and no damage was caused. The charge exploded while an IDF convoy was passing along the road, but the explosion occurred while there were no vehicles facing it. The charge, which was operated from a distance, contained about 6 kg of explosive material.

IRC Representatives Visit Syrian-Held POW's

TA161231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Representatives of the International Red Cross [IRC] have visited the three Israeli prisoners of war held by the Syrians. The visit took place on Sunday, 14 August, and was announced today. More from Sari Robert in Geneva:

[Begin recording] The visit took place according to IRC regulations. The delegates could speak with the prisoners without witnesses and a doctor accompanied the delegates. The IRC gave the Israelis letters, parcels, and books from their families and took messages to transmit to their families back in Israel. As is the custom, no details are given to the press concerning the conditions of detention. These details are transmitted only to the governments concerned.

The previous visit to the POW's in Syria was on 21 July. Since April, this is the seventh visit and the International Committee of the Red Cross say they are satisfied with the frequency of the visits. The six Israelis held by the PLO have not been visited since 15 July. Between 15 March and 15 July no visit took place. As for the two held by the group of Ahmad Jibril, they have been visited only once, on 3 May. [end recording]

Liberian President Doe May Visit Next Week

TA161008 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 16 Aug 83 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] Last night political sources in Jerusalem said that Liberian President Samuel Doe might come to Israel for a state visit at the beginning of next week, at the head of a delegation that would include senior ministers and advisers. The Liberian president is supposed to meet in Israel with the prime minister, the president, the ministers of defense and foreign affairs, and other elements. The Liberian president, who at the end of last week announced his intention of renewing relations with Israel, has thus accepted Prime Minister Menahem Begin's invitation to visit here and thus make the renewal of relations with Israel a reality.

Last night a senior political source in Jerusalem said that there was still no absolute certainty that the visit really would be held, but all the preparations for it were being made in Jerusalem. The same source said the visit would last several days. Several senior ministers from the Liberian Government have recently visited Israel secretly and the matter of the president's state visit to Israel was discussed in talks with the Israeli elements (Foreign Minister Shamir, Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche, and the head of the African Department, Avi Primor).

The Liberian president, so elements in Jerusalem have reported, will ask Israel for security and other types of aid. For several months now President Doe has been making public statements about a renewal of relations with Israel and calling upon other African states to do so.

Cabinet Decisions on Budget Cuts Reported

TA161216 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1150 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Cabinet will conclude its discussion on the cuts to the civilian budgets today and will make decisions about all the clauses that were brought to discussion on this issue. This has just been reported by our correspondent on economic affairs, 'Adi Hadar.

So far two decisions have been reported: One, to raise the travel tax to $100 for everyone travelling abroad for any period whatsoever, and the second decision was to reject the proposals to decrease the old-age allowances and cancel the birth allowance.

More on Cabinet Decisions

TA161412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Less than an hour ago, the Cabinet concluded its session and, as it turned out, only some of the Treasury's proposals will be approved. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that these refer to reducing manpower in the government ministries and freezing hiring.

The following were also decided: The Sick Fund will begin collecting progressive [last word in English] dues in accordance with income. The National Insurance Institute will collect from those who are self-employed on the basis of the income of the current year, and dues owed to the institute will be indexed like income tax. Interest on development loans will be increased in real terms to 2 percent. The water rates will be updated from now on and linked to the costs of electricity. The construction of hospitals in Beney Beraq and the new wards in Asaf Harofe will be frozen. Rentals in industrial buildings will be raised by 15 percent. Taxes will be imposed on income earned abroad, similar to the tax on income earned by citizens in Israel. The withholding tax will be increased to 45 percent.

As for the tax on children's allowances, it will apply to families in which there are no more than three children and the rate of the marginal tax paid by the family is at least 50 percent. The tax will be imposed on the allowances given for the first two

children. The tax will be imposed on the allowances as of October. As for the travel tax, the Cabinet decided to raise it from $50 to $100 beginning 22 August. Anyone who has paid prior to that will be required to pay an additional $25.

Arens To Meet With West Bank Notables

TA161244 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 16 Aug 83 p 7

[Report by Roni Shaqed]

[Text] Defense Minister Arens is scheduled to meet with Arabs in the territories in the near future as part of an attempt to find a solution to the administration of the affairs of West Bank towns whose mayors have been dismissed.

The head of the Civilian Administration, Shlomo Ilia, who met yesterday with some 50 notables from Al-Birah, told them that "the Civilian Administration's aim is to transfer dealing with the municipalities to Arab hands." The administration head asked to hear from the notables about moods in the town. Ilia himself stressed the importance of cooperation by the inhabitants with the Civilian Administration, which wants its relations with the population to permit correct administration of the town.

The Al-Birah municipality is headed by Israeli officials who were appointed to replace the Arab heads.

Investigation Planned On Village League Heads

TA170836 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 17 Aug 83 p 3

[Report by Tzvi Bar'el]

[Text] The investigation files against the heads of the village leagues from Ramallah and Bethlehem, and the person who was formerly head of the Hebron village league, are to be reopened.

The head of the Bethlehem village league, Bishara Qimsiyah, along with his son Samir, is suspected of having planned the attack against Bethlehem University and the orthodox club in Bayt Sahur more than a year ago. As a result of the violent attack against the university, in which weapons were used, the university watchman was seriously wounded and several local employees were injured. The attackers caused great damage to the orthodox club and beat up several of those present. The police investigation at the time encountered difficulties as a result of the suspects' noncooperation. Although the suspects' names were brought to the attention of the police by witnesses, no charges were filed.

Last night police sources said that "the police force had concluded the investigation at the time, the testimonies and evidence were given to a legal adviser and the military prosecutor in the Judaea and Samaria Command, and they should have been the ones to file the charges." Sources from the Civilian Administration have reported that there was a directive at the time not to harm village league leaders and their colleagues, and so nothing was done against the suspects.

Last night the head of the Civilian Administration did not deny the possibility that previous administration heads had given such a directive, which was supposed to provide impetus for the leagues' activity without their being harmed at the beginning by "legal moves."

Village Leagues Issue Palestinian Covenant

TA120743 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 12 Aug 83 p 3

[Report by David Richardson]

[Text] Leaders of the West Bank village leagues have drafted their own Palestinian National Covenant, which calls for the recognition of Israel within recognized boundaries and adopts UN Security Council resolutions and the Camp David agreements as a basis for future negotiations. At a meeting in Ramallah this week, Mustafa Dudin, chairman of the village league's roof organization, the Federation of Palestinian Leagues, circulated copies of a draft covenant to the chairman of the six village leagues now active in the West Bank.

The covenant is clearly intended to challenge the Palestine Liberation Organization's own covenant and uses the same terms, calling itself Al-Mithaq al-Watani al-Falastini la Salam — The Palestine National Covenant for Peace. The 35 clauses in the covenant include a call for the recognition of "legitimate Palestinian rights" and the "recognition of the rights of all peoples, including the Israeli people, to live within recognized and legal borders." The covenant does not specify the borders of the undefined Palestinian entity it calls for.

Other clauses call for direct negotiations with Israel; the holding of general elections in the West Bank and Gaza to be supervised by neutral international observers; very close ties with Jordan; the establishment of a strong police force — "to ensure internal law and order and the execution of judgements"; an independent judiciary; and a central bank.

Throughout the covenant, a central and decisive role is given to the Democratic Movement for Peace — Al-Haraki al-Dimukratiyah la Salam, which is the name of the proposed political party Dudin and the village leagues want to form. According to the covenant, the Democratic Movement for Peace "is obliged to lead the residents of the West Bank politically, economically, and socially in all situations where representation is required even at the stage of fateful decisions." The covenant specifically addresses itself only to residents of the West Bank and Gaza, and ignores the Palestinian refugees, the main constituency of the PLO. However, the right of family reunification in the future national home is recognized.

The draft covenant is to be adopted by a committee of the Democratic Movement for Peace after it has been studied during the next month by the chairmen of the various leagues. Dudin and the appointed chairman of the Hebron village league, Jamil al-'Amlah, are due to leave for the U.S. next week to attend a meeting of a veterans' organization in Georgia.

The regulations of each village league specifically bar any political activity, limiting their functions to local government. The proposed regulations of the Federation of Palestinian Leagues provide for political activity, but these have not yet been approved by the Israeli authorities, who have been considering them for almost a year.

The New Defence Ministry coordinator of activities in the territories, Tat-Aluf (Reserves) [Brigadier General] Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, who returned from abroad two days ago, is known to be extremely skeptical of the village leagues. It is thought unlikely that he will approve the federation's proposed regulations and role in political life in the West Bank. Members of the leagues argue that under Jordanian law they are free to act three months after submitting the regulations of their organization.

Meanwhile, the Israeli civil administration in the area has changed the law governing the appointment of the village leagues, fearing that a petition brought before the High Court of Al-'Amlah was appointed earlier this year to replace Muhammad An-Nasir, a local electrical engineer, who had been elected to replace Dudin when he left to form the federation. An-Nasir had angered Dudin and the Israeli authorities by independently forming his own political party based on the village leagues, which he also called the Democratic Movement for Peace.

In a petition he brought to the court, An-Nasir argued that his dismissal by the Israeli civil administration and the subsequent appointment of Al-'Amlah — a successful businessman with close Israeli ties — was illegal. According to An-Nasir's advocate, Ze'ev Weil of Jerusalem, the day before his client's case was to be heard by the court on July 26, An-Nasir's phone became inoperative and remains so until today. The same day, the civil administration also changed the law governing the village leagues, allowing the Israeli staff officer for interior affairs to appoint a council of three village heads if he concluded that the league was not functioning. At the same time, the staff officer signed the order appointing Al-Amlah as the head of the appointed council or league.

A spokesman for the civil administration admitted that all the sudden changes had been prompted by An-Nasir's petition to the court and added that they were not sure whether their new moves would also withstand judicial review if challenged.

Weil has said that he first intends questioning the sudden change in the legal situation, "which is tantamount to retroactive legislation," with Attorney-General Yitzhaq Zamir. If that is not satisfactory, he will challenge the civil administration's "lack of good faith" in court.

Poll Finds Public Sees Benefit From PLO Rift

TA160952 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 16 Aug 83 p 3

[Text] Tel Aviv — Nearly 40 percent of the public considers that the split in the Palestine Liberation Organization will benefit Israel. This is the finding of the *Jerusalem Post* poll, conducted at the end of July by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute among a representative sample of 1,162 adults.

While 39.9 percent of the respondents consider the PLO split to be to Israel's advantage, the contrary view is held by 17.1 percent. Another 23 percent think it does not matter either way, and 20.5 percent was undecided.

Institute Director Dr Sara Shemer found that among those holding that the PLO split is to Israel's benefit, a large number are in the 18-22 age group, Israelis from Afro-Asian countries, and religious-minded people.

Devaluation of Shekel For July, August Noted

TA161235 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] It has been reported that in August the shekel has been devalued — as of this morning, by about 13 percent. In July, the devaluation totalled less than 1 percent. People in Jerusalem think that in the near future the speed of the devaluation of the shekel will be faster than that of the rise in the cost of living index. This is as a result of the new policy of linking the shekel with other currencies.

African Heads of State Issue Declaration on Chad

AB161317 Dakar PANA in French 1246 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 16 Aug (ACI/PANA) — African heads of state and government present in Brazzaville on the occasion of activities marking the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution, after informal exchanges of views on the situation prevailing in Chad, have issued the following declaration:

"We, the heads of state and government of central Africa present in Brazzaville on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution and in the presence of the current OAU chairman, have thoroughly examined the situation which has prevailed in Chad for several years now. Highly preoccupied by the extremely serious problem and the risks of internationalizing the conflict, believing that the solution to this conflict should be political rather than military and should be based on national reconciliation, we ask the current OAU chairman to make contacts with all the parties concerned with a view to obtaining a cease-fire and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Chad, and preventing all countries from interfering in the domestic affairs of Chad."

Zaire, despite the fact that it is a concerned party, took part in all the discussions but did not take a stand.

Mengistu Appeal

AB161301 Dakar PANA in French 1240 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 16 Aug (ACI/PANA) — The current chairman of the OAU, Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia, has asked all foreign powers in Chad to withdraw from this fratricidal conflict so that an African solution may be found for this tragedy. President Mengistu issued this appeal during a banquet offered on Monday night by President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to his colleagues taking part in the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution.

The current OAU chairman also called on Africans to become aware of their economic exploitation by the big powers who, moreover, are trying to manipulate them in order to later pit them against one another.

Further Mengistu Remarks

EA162152 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam has called on all OAU member-countries neighboring Chad to cooperate in efforts to defuse the tension in Chad and to end the war because the current situation in Chad, if allowed to continue, will jeopardize the security of that country and destabilize the security and peace of Africa.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam made this call in a speech he made at a dinner given by Congolese leader Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso in honor of African leaders and delegates who attended the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution. In his speech on behalf of the leaders present at the celebrations, Comrade Chairman Mengistu said that the 19th OAU Bureau meeting held 15-16 July, passed a resolution after extensive deliberations calling on African and outside powers to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of Chad and for national reconciliation between the parties fighting the civil war in order to find a lasting solution to the Chadian problem.

Comrade Mengistu pointed out that the Chadian problem had developed an international dimension because of clear and increasing foreign involvement. He cautioned that if the situation is allowed to continue it will not only jeopardize the security of Chad but will also destablize Africa's security and peace. He, therefore, called for an immediate halt to this development. He added that it is with this in mind that we call for the cooperation of all neighboring and OAU member-states in efforts to defuse the tension and to end the war in Chad.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu went on to point out that on one the hand, the broad masses of Namibia remain oppressed by a racist apartheid regime while on the other hand, the terrorist Pretoria regime continues to plot new schemes to stifle the armed struggle of the Namibian people and to prolong its illegal exploitation of the country's natural wealth. He pointed out that the racist South African regime continues its aggression against Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, and others and is also causing incalculable damage by training, arming, and infiltrating antirevolutionary forces. He noted that the conflict in Western Sahara continues.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu pointed out that it was distressing to note that the conflicts in Africa are taking place at a time when the continent's economy is weak and social problems are escalating. He added that in addition to millions of our compatriots being exposed to hunger, African countries have been plunged into foreign debts from which they cannot easily emerge. Comrade Chairman Mengistu explained that the falling prices of Africa's raw materials in the international market coupled with the escalating price of imported goods has upset the trade balance and has aggravated the problem. He added that the limited willingness of capitalist countries to alleviate the economic problems of developing countries to which they contributed was clearly observed in their stand at the recent UNCTAD meeting in Belgrade.

The comrade chairman, stating that African countries have no choice but to enhance their cooperation and become self-reliant in order to combat and solve their social and economic problems, added that implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action is a burning priority.

Paris: Libya Not Opposed to General Negotiations

LD162233 Paris International Service in French 2115 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Libya was represented in Brazzaville by Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan ambassador to the United Nations. It is now known that Libya is in no way opposed to a general peace negotiation involving African countries, or even other countries. Dr at-Turayki has had lengthy talks in Brazzaville with Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the Ministry of External

Relations for Cooperation and said that if France could contribute to the restoration of peace in Chad, Libya would appreciate this. Here is Dr at-Turayki at the microphone of our special correspondent Charles Lescaut:

[Begin At-Turayki recording] I think that France can help in this way or exert certain pressure on Habre so that Habre will be willing to negotiate, so that Habre accepts the idea of not solving the problem militarily and the fact that no single faction can govern Chad alone. This is in everyone's interest. To find a political solution is in the interest of Chad's neighbors and of the people of Chad themselves. I believe that France, which has intervened at this time to help Habre, could exert an enormous influence on Habre. I also think that France has a moral responsibility toward Africa (?to act). It also applies to those who have helped: to Mobutu, who has sent his troops and thus has complicated the situation. An effort must be made so that Mobutu will agree to cooperate with the other African heads of state, withdraw his troops, and leave the Chadians to decide for themselves. [end recording]

LIBYA

As-Sa'iqah's Al-Qadi Sends Al-Qadhdhafi Message
LD161036 Tripoli JANA in English 0846 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhu al-Qa'dah 8, August 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The revolution's leader received the following cable from 'Issam al-Qadi, secretary general of the General Command of As-Sa'iqah (Vanguard of the Popular Liberation War):

The Arab masses and their national revolutionary forces together with all peace-loving people in the world are following with extreme concern the reactionary Zionist-U.S. onslaught against the Jamahiriyah.

The onslaught is coupled with desperate attempts to liquidate the Palestinian revolution. We are aware of the fact that the repeated attack against the Arab nation is aimed at subjugating it to U.S. and Zionist hegemony. U.S. provocations against Libya in the north coincided with U.S. manoeuvres in [word indistinct] territories and increased imperialist intervention in Chad, against both the Chadian people and their legitimate united government under the leadership of President Goukouni Oueddei. The U.S. staged all these operations by fabricating false allegations against the Jamahiriyah.

This vicious onslaught, however, will not undermine the determination of the Libyan Arab people and their revolutionary leadership for, together with the other Arab masses they are capable of repulsing the aggressor.

In conclusion, the cable called on all national forces to back the Libyan Arab people in confronting the vicious imperialist onslaught against the Jamahiriyah.

Fatah Dissident Delegation Departs 16 August
LD162334 Tripoli JANA in English 1747 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Tripoli, Dhu al-Qa'dah 8, August 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The delegation of the new revolutionary movement before noon today left Tripoli.

Abu Salih, [Nimr Salih] member of the Command Committee of the new revolutionary movement, in a statement to JANA's correspondent at Tripoli airport before he left, said: "We feel confident as we leave Jamahiriyah land of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution for our positions, that we are able to reach our aims which are the aims of all Arabs, to destroy the Zionist enemy and defend the Palestinian cause."

He added "Our confidence in the strength of our Arab nation to achieve our ambitions for freedom and liberation, had increased, especially after our meeting with the leader, who is evoking towards the unity of all revolutions and towards achieving the aims of the Arab nation, to protect Lebanon and the victorious outcome of the Palestinian people's cause and the right of the return to the homeland."

JANA: OAU Leaders Condemn Intervention in Chad
LD161042 Tripoli JANA in English 0930 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, Dhu al-Qa'dah 8, August 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — African leaders taking part in the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution have condemned foreign imperialist interventions in Chad and confirmed that these interventions place Chad and Africa before a serious danger.

Among the African leaders, President Haile Mariam of Ethiopia, also the current O.A.U. chairman, stressed that the Chadian people have the right for self determination away from all foreign interventions.

In a statement issued yesterday, the leaders also stressed the necessity that the Organization of African Unity assumes its responsibility to put an end to the tragedy of the Chadian people.

UNCLAS SQL/PMU MWR
ATTN JORDAN AAMM

JANA: Goukouni Appeals to Nonaligned Countries
LD162151 Tripoli JANA in English 1900 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Faya-Largeau, Dhu al Qa'dah 8, August 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The president of the legitimate Government of National Unity in Chad, Goukouni Oueddei, sent a letter to Indira Gandhi, the Indian prime minister and current chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement.

The letter reads as follows:

"The deterioration of the situation in my country, caused by intervention, is unprecendented move by the imperialist forces and their allies, in Africa. This forces me to bring to your attention what is happening in my country, as the motto of the non-aligned countries, to which my country also belongs is the struggle against intervention in the internal affairs of other countries and the struggle against imperialism and working towards strengthening national independence and the legitimate rights of people in order to run its domestic affairs and for the imperialist countries to stop interfering in all directions."

Goukouni added in his letter: "The Provisional National Unity Government, formed as a result of Lagos agreement, arrived at after long and serious negotiations which for the first time gathered all the warring factions and the various political directions round the negotiating table thus gave a chance to reach a peaceful solution to the Chad issue. This agreement was accepted by all Chadian factions and supported by the OAU, all Chad's neighbours and international bodies. But Habre violated this agreement, the only framework of legitimacy in my country, by starting war in March 1980, rebelling against the government, in which he held the position of defence minister. The aim behind this rebellion was to turn my country, which is geographically well situated, into a base for aggression against free countries in the region and to consolidate colonialist hegemony over the people of Africa. Relying on colonialist powers, the rebel Habre gathered his forces abroad and launched from Sudan, due to the

military and financial possibilities and equipment provided to him to achieve the aim of the rebellion. Some African forces helped him and conspired with him, especially the Zairean forces."

The President of the legitimate Government of National Unity, in his letter, explained to the chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement: "As a result of this, the forces of the rebel Habre succeeded to enter Ndjamena by completely disregarding the Lagos agreement."

President Goukouni confirmed that the present confrontation is the only way left for the peaceful and legitimate demands of our people and to the majority of the factions forces, away from the political arena which signed the Lagos agreement. [sentence as received]

He indicated that Habre's political and military inability to take control gave away to imperialism to try and impose its hegemony by escalating the situation, time and time again, thus creating the right atmosphere to internationalise the problem.

President Goukouni confirmed that the USA continues to send advanced military equipment as well as AWACS and F-15 fighter planes and soldiers to participate in the killing and organised annihilation of our people. France for over a month now continues to supply destructive weapons to the forces of the rebel Habre. Recently it has begun to send combat units. At the beginning these numbered 500, which has now increased to 700 soldiers. These forces have been stationed at new advanced positions in Abeche and Salal, proving its direct intervention.

The president of the legitimate National Unity Government in Chad confirmed in his letter that direct intervention by France, USA and Zaire will complicate the situation which to this minute is deteriorating. If the internal balance of power is tipped, then it threatens directly the security of all countries in the region specifically and the world generally.

The Provisional Government of National Unity condemns the dangerous and destructive military and diplomatic actions of some countries such as France, USA and Zaire for creating an atmosphere suitable for internationalising the purely Chadian problem.

President Goukouni said that the Provisional Government of National Unity in Chad deplores the false allegations concerning the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's intervention on the side of the national liberation army.

Taking into account the escalations of the Chadian crisis, supported by forces trying to colonialise Chad once again, the legitimate government reserves the right to call upon its friends for help, at the right time, if foreign forces do not withdraw from Chad. Whatever, the National Unity Government awaits for a solution to this crisis. It expresses readiness to accept a fact finding mission to carry out the necessary searches in order to prove that the allegations about Jamahiriyah's participation in the war in Chad are unfounded.

JANA: Sudanese Front Condemns Intervention in Chad

LD161025 Tripoli JANA in English 0843 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] London, Dhu al-Qa'dah 8, August 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary general of the United National Sudanese Front Ahmad Zein al Abidin [spelling as received] said that all the Sudanese people, irrespective of class stand alongside the Libyan Arab people in their confrontation of the U.S. imperialist conspiracy.

In a statement to the news agency here, Al Abidin condemned direct U.S.-French intervention in Chad's Chadian factions must be left to resolve their own differences. [sentence as received]

The hireling Numayri is acting in collussion with the U.S. Administration and implementing its plots against the people.

This is why we are calling all the vital and peace-loving forces to support the Sudanese people until the hireling regime in Sudan is overthrown and the liberation of Sudan Arab territorial waters is completed and all imperialist conspiracies foiled.

MOROCCO

King Hassan II Receives U.S. Senator Kasten

LD162324 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II this afternoon at the Royal Palace in Sukhayrat received Senator Robert Kasten, chairman of the U.S. Congressional Appropriation Committee. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Sidi Muhammad, and the minister of state for foreign affairs M'hamed Boucetta. It was also attended from the American side by Joseph Reed, U.S. ambassador to Morocco.

SUDAN

Messages Exchanged Between Numayri, Habre

JN161730 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri will initiate an extensive political move during the coming days by sending messages to a large number of Arab and African heads of state, the present chairman of the OAU, and the French Government to explain Sudan's viewpoint concerning the Chadian problem and affirm the legitimacy of the current Chadian Government and its efforts to oppose the external aggression to which it is subjected, so as to assist this government in facing aggression according to international pacts and norms.

This has come in a statement made by Hashim 'Uthman, foreign affairs under secretary, upon his return to Khartoum from Chad where he conveyed a message from President Numayri to Chadian President Hissein Habre related to the current situation.

In his statement, Hashim 'Uthman said that he brought a verbal message to President Numayri from Chadian President Habre

in reply to the former's message. He added that he and his accompanying delegation had acquainted the Chadian president with the intensified Sudanese diplomatic move to support Chad.

The under secretary of foreign affairs said that Habre praised Numayri's move and initiative in support of the Chadian cause since the beginning and also his current role in opposing aggression against Chad. Habre affirmed that Sudan continued to play this role out of objectivity, awareness, and realization of the dimensions of the cause and the plots of foreign interference.

Habre also praised the role of the Sudanese media in reflecting what is taking place in Chad.

'Any Possible Assistance' Promised to Chad

EA161052 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Hashim 'Uthman returned home yesterday after delivering a written message from President Numayri to Chadian President Hissein Habre.

In interviews with NBC, BBC and Chadian news services, 'Uthman said he appealed to peace-loving countries to side with Chad to help it repulse the Libyan aggression which is backed by a superpower. Uthman said he stressed that Chad was a sovereign state that has the right to defend its territories, and added that Sudan would render any possible assistance to Chad to help it overcome its ordeal.

Foreign Minister's Security Council Message Reported

JN121808 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] The United Nations, 12 Aug (SUNA) — The UN secretary general this morning distributed a message from Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak on the situation in Chad to the Security Council members making it one of the council's documents.

The message dealt with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's allegations contained in his message to the Security Council on 5 August accusing Sudan of being involved in alleged threats to the peace and security of his country.

The message informed the Security Council members that carrying out such maneuvers was a legitimate right which is in harmony with the international law, the UN Charter, and all regional and international norms. It also said that such training maneuvers were not intended to threaten the security of any state but merely to develop the fighting capabilities of the Sudanese people's armed forces.

The message said that Col al-Qadhdhafi had stated in his message [sentence as received]. However, contrary to that, he not only spoke on behalf of these countries which included Sudan but also interfered in their internal affairs denying them their legitimate right to administer their affairs in the manner they deem appropriate.

In conclusion, the message said that Al-Qadhdhafi's message was a false and tendentious interpretation of the aim and nature of the joint U.S.-Sudanese training maneuvers. The message said that Sudan has no doubt that the whole state of affairs is merely a futile attempt by Libya to draw the Security Council's attention away from Chad's complaint over Libya's latest aggression against it.

TUNISIA

Al-Qadhdhafi Holds Private Talk With Mzali

LD161932 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had a private talk lasting about 40 minutes with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali in the Saqanis Palace Hotel in Monastir today. Afterward they were joined by Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi; Justice Minister Mohamed Chaker; Interior Minister Driss Guiga; National Defense Minister Slaheddine Baly; the party director and minister attached to the prime minister's office, Mongi Kooli; the minister attached to the prime minister's office for civil service and administrative reform, El-Mezri Chekir; Planning Minister Ismail Khalil; Information Minister Abderrazak Kefi; and Tunisian Ambassador in Tripoli Mohamed Jenifane.

On the Libyan side the talks were attended by Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi and by Libyan Ambassador in Tunis Jum'ah al-Fazzanil.

Further on Talks

LD170033 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The Tunisian news agency TAP has stated that the talks which took place yesterday evening (Tunisian time difference) at Saqanis Palace Hotel in Monastir between the Tunisian and Libyan delegations headed by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Premier Mohamed Mzali, which continued for about 2 hours and 45 minutes in which about 40 minutes were spent in a private conversation between Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Premier Mohamed Mzali, dealt with exchanging viewpoints on strengthening the cooperation between the two countries and perfecting the means of integration between them.

The meeting also dealt with the development of their relations within the framework of the Greater Arab Maghreb and the Arab nation.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Returns From Congo Meetings 16 August

EA162157 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam returned (?here) this afternoon from Brazzaville where he attended the 20th anniversary of the Congolese peoples revolution. While in Brazzaville Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, current chairman of the OAU, held talks with African leaders present for the anniversary on African, international and bilateral issues.

AFP Reports Kidnapping of Ten Swiss Nationals

NC161152 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Nairobi, Aug. 16 (AFP) — Tigrean nationalists have kidnapped 10 Swiss nationals, including six relief agency workers, Swiss diplomatic sources said today.

The group was seized on August 3 at Jari, 450 km (280 miles) north of Addis Ababa by the Tigrean People's Liberation Front (TPLF). The six, with four relatives, were working at an orphanage set up several years ago by the humanitarian organisation Terre Des Hommes (a human world).

The number of staff at Jari was recently increased because of the serious drought affecting that region (Wollo) and the neighbouring provinces of Tigre and Eritrea.

This is the second time this year that aid workers have been seized by the TPLF, which for the past nine years has been fighting for the independence of Tigre, in Northern Ethiopia.

A dozen foreigners, most of them working for the Save-the-Children Fund, were abducted in April from Korem, about 100 km (65 miles) north of Jari on the road from Addis Ababa to Asmara, the Eritrean capital.

They were set free some six weeks later after being taken across the Sudanese border to Khartoum.

An official at the Swiss Embassy, contacted by phone from Nairobi, said that the embassy had contacted the Ethiopian authorities about not endangering the lives of the captives.

Last night a spokesman at the Lausanne headquarters of Terre Des Hommes said that the organisation had been in touch with the International Red Cross (IRC) to seek the release of the 10.

An IRC representative in Addis Ababa said that he had not been informed of any moves, and suggested that the affair was being handled direct from Red Cross headquarters in Switzerland.

The Ethiopian authorities, in line with their usual policy when "secessionist bandits" are involved, have not commented on the incident so far.

Radio Reports Attacks on Dergue in Tigre Region

EA161125 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Tigre — on 8 August, TPLF forces attacked enemy forces around Shire [Tigre region] killing one Dergue soldier and wounding three others. On 2 August, TPLF forces killed or wounded 20 enemy soldiers around Adi Shaho [Tigre region].

In another development, four Dergue soldiers have surrendered to TPLF forces.

SOMALIA

Defense Ministry Reports Ethiopian Attacks

LD121450 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] A report received this afternoon from the SDR Defense Ministry states that at 1500 Yesterday, Abyssinian forces attacked the villages of (Libah Gowdan) and (Dul Duleleh), which are between (Inaguha) and (Lebi Sagaaleh).

The report adds that the attack ended at 0300 today with the attacking Abyssian forces being repulsed with heavy losses of men and material.

The Abyssinian forces were forced to retreat to the bases from which they had launched their attack.

The report goes on to say that at 0900 today the Amhara force renewed their attack on SDR territory against the same places. Fighting is still in progress.

Further news will be broadcast in our subsequent newscasts as we receive reports from the SDR Defense Ministry.

40 Ethiopians Reported Killed

LD122140 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Reports received from the Somali Democratic Republic Defense Ministry tonight says that the Abyssinian forces that yesterday and this morning attacked the villages of (Libah), (Bowdan) and (Dul Duleleh) between (Inaguhu) and (Lebi Sagalleh) in the northwest region, have been repulsed with heavy casualties of men and materiel suffered by the Abyssinian forces.

The report continues by saying that the Abyssinian forces lost 40 soldiers killed and many others wounded. The enemy forces also lost a large quantity of weapons.

The Somali Democratic Republic forces lost five soldiers martyred and nine wounded. The report concludes by saying that all the enemy forces have been driven out of the areas they attacked.

TANZANIA

Iran's Velayati Holds Talks With Nyerere

EA162211 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, said Tanzania may now import any amount of oil from Iran following the withdrawal of various provisions which were hindering the importation of oil under the agreement signed between the two countries several months ago.

Speaking to newsmen, Dr Velayati did not specify which provisions were hindering the importation of oil. He said during his talks in the country the two sides agreed to cooperate in various fields to eradicate their problems. He said Iran is ready to send her experts to Tanzania to help in oil exploration. Dr Velayati also said the two sides are expected to cooperate in other areas such as trade, on which an agreement is expected to be reached later this week.

Earlier, President Nyerere received a special message from President 'Ali Khamene'i of Iran. The message was presented to the president at his Msasani residence by the Iranian minister. After presenting the message he held long discussions on relations between Tanzania and Iran. The talks were also attended by Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim, and Iranian and Tanzanian government officials.

Dr Velayati leaves Dar es Salaam tomorrow for Zimbabwe.

UGANDA

Muwanga on Arrests, Defense Ministry Vote

LD121416 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] The vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has told Parliament this morning that the army is arresting and detaining people for questioning in the national interest. He cautioned members against creating an impression that there is random torture and murder. He stressed that cases of arresting and detaining civilians by the army are few and are kept to a minimum. He hoped this security measure will soon be a phenomenon of the past.

The vice president refuted allegations that the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] has a hand in the recruitment of the army. He said recruitment is done according to the Armed Forces Act.

More than 13,500 million shillings was later passed as a recurrent expenditure. Parliament has also passed votes for all ministries totalling about (?53,000) million shillings for recurrent expenditure and more than 10,500 million shillings for development. [figures as heard]

CHAD

Further on Habre 16 August Press Conference

Peaceful Solution Affirmed

LD161257 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Is the war in Chad moving toward a negotiated solution? President Hissein Habre has just affirmed that the Chadian Government is not against a peaceful solution to the conflict between his country and Libya. For the Chadian president, the only current interlocutor for Chad is still Libya. Is Tripoli ready to start a dialogue, asked Hissein Habre, while Libya occupies half of Chad's territory? — I am still quoting President Hissein Habre. It is a partial opening, for at the moment the Goukouni forces, supported by the Libyans, are still facing the Hissein Habre forces, assisted by about 800 French paratroops.

The Chadian president also thinks that France cannot be accused of wanting to deal directly with Libya or even of putting pressure on himself to negotiate under conditions which would not suit him. Our relations with our French friends are clear and are not burdened by any ambiguity, the Chadian president continued during a press conference.

SUNA Report

JN161850 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 16 Aug (SUNA) — Chadian President Hissein Habre has said that the bloody situation which Chad is currently witnessing is a matter concerning the world because it is a war imposed by the Tripoli regime on Chad. In a press conference held today, President Habre said that Chad, which has problems similar to those of other countries, has the right to live in peace, freedom, and prosperity. President Habre talked about the developments of Libyan interference in Chad and the policy of domination and expansion which the Tripoli regime is adopting in Chad by considering this country an extension of Libya and a security belt for it. He said that Libya had obstructed the first and second Kano conferences as well as the Lagos conference pertaining to the Chadian cause so as to achieve its expansionist objectives in Chad and prevent the prevalence of peace in it.

President Habre added that Libya had used its forces and planes to invade Chad in 1980 and had occupied it for a long period of time. He said that Libya was forced to carry out a tactical withdrawal due to the rejection of the Libyan presence in Chad by several countries, the struggle of the Chadian national forces, and the isolation which encircled Libya. President Habre affirmed that Libya did not withdraw from Chad and referred to the messages he addressed to Kamougue, Goukouni, and Acyl for reconciliation 1 week after the victory of the national forces. Habre went on to say that Libya sought to attract those who were defeated and use them against Chad's territorial integrity. President Habre explained that after the Chadian national forces were victorious over the Libyan-backed mercenaries in Abeche, Palatim, Oum Chalouba, Kalait, and Faya-Largeau, Libya found itself facing two options: direct interference or acceptance of failure. President Habre reiterated that in order to be loyal to his principles and truthful to himself, Al-Qadhdhafi chose to interfere by using his regular forces, and ground and air equipment, including phosphoric and fragmentation bombs, against Faya-Largeau in a manner not witnessed except during World War II. It was a real mass-murder operation, Habre said.

In his press conference today, President Habre said that Libya is now occupying 50 percent of Chad, an independent and sovereign state which has recognized borders according to international agreements. He described this aggression as unacceptable to world conscience, and conflicting with peoples rights. For this reason, Habre added, and stemming from Chad's right to defend itself, Chad called on all peace-loving people to preserve Chad's independence, dignity, and territorial integrity and called on the French Government, president, and people to help their friends. Chad is also calling on African, Asian, Arab, Latin American, and all states to assist Chad in its legitimate defense, and is appealing to them not to place Chad, which is subject to aggression, on the same level with Libya, the aggressor.

President Habre affirmed that the Chadian Government has always sought a peaceful solution at the United Nations, the OAU, and even in Tripoli as well as on bilateral levels with many countries. He said that Libya today is occupying by force a large part of Chad's territory. Habre wondered whether Libya is ready to opt for peace and allow Chad to maintain its independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. He also wondered whether any party in the world has taken any step to force the aggressor to halt his aggression.

President Habre said: Chad asked for help from the French Government and for President Mitterrand to decide the extent of this help which will enable us to confront the mass murder of our Chadian people by Libya.

On whether there are French intentions to pressure the Chadian Government into negotiating with Libya or whether France is conniving with Libya to partition Chad, Habre said: Our relations with our French friends are clear and have a long history. We asked for help and the French Government promised to respond favorably. We said that their current help is not enough to face the threats confronting us. Habre added: There is no question of pressuring the government. I am not against negotiations but with whom do we negotiate? Habre said: There are the mercenaries from various states and Soviet weapons, but the responsible party is the Libyan regime. Negotiations must be held only with Libya.

On the Brazzaville meeting which, according to reports, has discussed the Chadian situation, Habre said: To meet or not to meet is their own affair. As for Chad statements and resolutions are useless. Have OAU resolutions prevented Libya from attacking Chad? He expressed astonishment over the Congolese president's invitation to the aggressor Libya and his ignoring the state which is exposed to aggression, Chad.

On the current military situation, Habre said: Since the fighting in Faya-Largeau, there has been no direct confrontation between the Chadian Armed Forces and Libyan forces. Libyan

planes, however, continue to bomb Oum Chalouba and Koro-Toro. The latest bombing occurred the day before yesterday.

Concluding his press conference, Habre appealed to reporters to report the truth as it is. He said: We are not asking you to stand at our side but report the truth, namely, that Libya is occupying 500,000 km [as received] of our territory by force of arms and is bombing our population.

The press conference was attended by about 100 reporters; members of the Chaadian Government, National Assembly, and Consultative Council; heads of the diplomatic missions and representatives of international organizations in Ndjamena; members of the command of the Northern Armed Forces; leaders of the popular committees in the north; and clergymen in Ndjamena.

AFP Reports Growing French Military Presence

AB170925 Paris AFP in English 0845 GMT 17 Aug 83

[By Christian Millet]

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 17 (AFP) — The Chad capital is a beehive of activity as the rear base of a confused and complicated conflict with nobody knowing whether the present temporary lull will continue or explode into fighting. Everywhere people are discussing, in the humid heat of the rainy season, what is going to happen next.

Some consider that Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi well understands just how far, and fast, he can advance, while others see him as a puppet of Moscow, ready to pursue his present military advantage, although Chad and France are said to have guarantees of United States support to fight [word indistinct].

Meanwhile, the military aid airlift continues unabated, and the capital is becoming accustomed to the incessant noise of huge cargo and transport planes landing at the international airport. People have already forgotten their excitment as the first giant United States Air Force C-141 "Starlifter" transport plane landed on July 25 to unload jeeps, followed at midnight on August 4 by two French Air Force Transal planes and then by two Hercules C-130 under charter to the French Government.

Today there are about 35 to 40 flights daily and nobody bothers to count them. Jet turbine engines whine as the huge planes trundle to their unloading point while ground crews of Chad's Air Force of two ancient D-4s and two "prehistoric" DC-3 Dakotas work feverishly to make them operational to fly much-needed ammunition up to the front.

A little further away from the hurly-burly of the airport, French paratroops are settling down in Camp Dubut, named after an officer in the legendary wartime armoured Le Clerc column which fought Rommel's Afrika Korps at Bir Hakeim. Guy Penne, French presidential adviser for Africa, visited the camp last Tuesday after talks with Chad President Hissein Habre and discovered they were lacking many essentials, including their service beds. Some of them had been recalled from leave, but they all appeared to be delighted to be in Chad, where many had been posted before not so long ago. They openly admitted they would not be upset if they had to go into action against the Libyans.

Meanwhile, they wear an armband with the words "detachment instruction" to show that officially they are here as military advisers to the Chad Army. They have started their mission by teaching young Chadian Army recruits how to use recoiless rifles at a nearby shooting range.

On Monday afternoon a section of the 8th Regiment of the Marine Paratroops (RPIMA) drove miles seeking a Chad road map as they had to move off at 4 a.m. to an unknown destination. Their personnel carrier bore their regimental badge — a black anchor in a mauve circle, with the words "ruse et cogne" (ruse and force).

How many of these "advisers" have arrived in Chad? The total varies from 800-1,200, but no official figure has been released. All that can be said for certain is that the numbers are increasing every day.

Sudanese Delegation Departs Ndjamena 15 August

JN151553 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 Aug (SUNA) — Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Hashim 'Uthman and his accompanying delegation left Ndjamena for Khartoum at noon today after delivering a written message from President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to Chadian President Hissen Habre.

GUNT Communique Denies Goukouni Missing

AB161900 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Communique issued by the Ministry of External Relations and Cooperation in Bardai on 16 August 1983]

[Text] The Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] formally denies the (?gross) biased rumors that Comrade President Goukouni Oueddei was reported missing following the 30 July fighting in Faya-Largeau. We refute these gross allegations which are only were fictitious reports aimed at diverting the internal and international attention from the French, U.S., and Zairian intervention aimed at (?subjugating) Chad.

After successfully leading the victorious counteroffensive in Faya-Largeau, Comrade President Goukouni Oueddei is among the valiant freedom fighters.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Addresses Nation on Anniversary

AB161522 Dakar PANA in French 1235 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 16 Aug (ACL/PANA) — "It is necessary for Africa to listen to the call to unite and work decisively for this unity that is so much desired by the masses in all our countries," Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the Congolese head of state, said

on Sunday evening in Brazzaville in his address to the nation on the occasion of the 20th anniversary celebrations of the Congolese revolution.

The Congolese head of state, who did not hide his concern about the dangers that threaten world peace and the regional tensions that have been provoked by imperialism everywhere, expressed the wish that all African states unite, as much as possible, to face the economic looting and the manipulation of regimes which is creating disorder throughout Africa.

In an economic crisis where the weakest are victims, in a world where generosity has ceased to be the order of the day, Col Sassou-Nguesso expressed hope that everything possible would be done so that Africa could unite in order for its voice to be better heard, its cause better defended, and its political and economic struggle more efficient.

The Middle East war, the disturbances in Central America, and South Africa's obstinacy in maintaining Namibia under its domination are some of the injustices, some of the tragedies which should be revolting to African states and compel them to carry out an obstinate and courageous fight against imperialism, he said.

Expressing himself with optimism and revolutionary courage, Col Sassou Nguesso made it known that "the struggle of the South African people will intensify, and the Namibian people led by SWAPO will deliver some hard blows to the occupier and will compel him to withdraw from their territory."

He concluded by saying that faced with the monstrous imperialist appetite and its desire to continue its domination and exploitation of the world, "Africa should unite" if it wants to be free.

Labor Party Signs Two Agreements With Frelimo

AB161618 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] This morning at the Meridien Hotel, the Mozambique Liberation Front and the Congolese Labor Party [PCT] signed two documents, a general cooperation agreement and a program of cooperation between the two parties. The two documents were signed for the PCT by Comrade Pierre Nze, member of the Political Bureau, head of the department of external relations, and minister of foreign affairs, and for Frelimo by Comrade Joaquim Alberto Chissano, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Frelimo Central Committee in charge of external relations.

In the general cooperation agreement, the two sides expressed their desire to strengthen their close relations of friendship, cooperation, and militant solidarity between the PCT and the Frelimo on the basis of their similar political and ideological policies.

GABON

President Bongo Speaks on OAU, Western Sahara

AB162205 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Speech by President Omar Bongo on Gabon's national day in Libreville — live]

[Excerpt] In the sphere of foreign policy, I want to underline our moves in Africa in the last few months. In (?making contacts) with a number of heads of state, I intended to restore the soul of Africa through recourse to unity and brotherhood. I also announced Gabon's candidacy for the post of OAU seceretary general. We have decided to maintain the candidacy, which is not that of one country — Gabon — but that of the whole of Africa. [Words indistinct] I want to make this clear: The OAU has principles and regulations for the election of the OAU secretary general. So to be elected secretary general, a candidate must receive two-thirds of the votes of the members present at the session. (?The outcome) will only strengthen us and prompt us all to do away with our grudges and overcome our ideological differences which Africa must depart from now. We must not entertain complexes. We must remain Africans and ensure that the OAU lives. To this effect, we must not behave, as I said a while ago, like rowdy people, like these or those people. In fact we must speak the same language — the language of the OAU, the language of African unity. We cannot lose sight of the fact the some non-African countries capitalize on the difficulties of the OAU following the two abortive summits in Tripoli in July and November 1982. We must henceforth be happy that we succeeded in overcoming some of our antagonistic positions at the recent meeting in Addis Ababa. This led us to hold the 19th summit. This trend toward unity is now gaining momentum in the north of the continent, in the Maghreb. The implementation of the resolution calling for a referendum in the Western Sahara should strengthen us in our choice and our desire to (?always) resort to negotiations in the event of misunderstanding in a region.

With regard to the Western Sahara issue, I have always said in leading Gabon I have never had to retreat in the face of realities. Resolutions have been adopted calling for Moroccan and Saharan authorities to meet. Even if that is impossible, there is a standing commission which should hold a meeting to play its role — one morning in Morocco and in the afternoon with the Saharans, in their republic, I do not know yet if it is a country. Anyway, the commission should meet then where they are in order to faithfully take care of what we decided and report on what Morocco says and what the Polisario says. This will enable Africa to regain its unity. In this connection, I want to express my happiness over Morocco's past decision to hold the referendum [words indistinct].

LIBERIA

Newspaper Banned for 'Negative' Reporting

AB162210 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The justice minister has closed down the *Daily Observer* newspaper. Speaking at a news conference following the closure, Justice Minister Justice Scott said the paper has the tendency of presenting stories on developments in Liberia in a negative manner. He said while the government would remain tolerant to free journalistic practice, individuals should be in the position to present things objectively. He cited today's *Observer*'s story on bad roads as an example of the kind of stories published by the paper in which it was suggested that the government was not doing anything to improve conditions in the country. He said the *Daily Observer has only taken an opposite view of positive efforts* by the government.

Minister Scott said this is a military government and the paper cannot expect the government to give it what it does not give to the government. The paper will remain closed until further orders.

NIGERIA

Further Reportage on Gubernatorial Elections

Final Results

AB161510 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1220 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] This is the National Network Service of Radio Nigeria. A team of radio correspondents are now ready with more results of last Saturday's governship election. So over now to our election desk at Federal Electorial Commission, Fedeco, Headquarters:

Hello and welcome once again to Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, FRCN, desk at Fedeco Headquarters in Onikon. We have received some of the results of last Saturday's gubernatorial elections, and the results we have with us here are from Kano State, Borno State, Sokoto State, Oyo State, and Cross River State. To read the results I have here with me Walter Batuano, Jim Madike, and I am Ronke Idilana. Here now is the breakdown of the results:

First we take Kano State. Candidate Alhaji Shehu Adamu of Great Nigeria People's Party, GNPP, received 17,378 votes, making 1.14 percent. Candidate Alhaji Aminu Bashir Wali of National Party of Nigeria, NPN, received 423,811 votes, making 24.39 percent of the total vote. Candidate Alhaji Mahamedu Abubakar Rimi of Nigeria People's Party, NPP, received 501,122 votes, making 28.51 percent of the total vote. Candidate Alhaji Sabo Barkin Zuwo of People's Redemption Party, PRP, received 715, 523 votes making 43.27 percent of the total vote. Finally, Alhaji Shehu Shanono of Unity Party of Nigeria, UPN, received 24,932 votes, making 1.53 percent of the total vote. Alhaji Sabo Barkin Zuwo was elected governor of Kano State.

Now for the results of Sokoto state, I pass you over to Jim Madike:

Candidate Alhaji Muazu Macido, GNPP: votes received, 26,168, representing 0.76 percent. Candidate Alhaji Abdulahi Kamba, NAP: votes received, 16,630 representing 0.48 percent. Candidate Dr Garba Nadama, NPN: votes received, 3,320,573, representing 95.98 percent. Candidate Alhaji Abubakar Dakin Gari, NPP, votes received, 32,425, representing 0.94 percent. Candidate Alhaji Mohamed Musa, PRP: votes received 21,846, representing 0.63 percent. And candidate Alhaji Shehu Ebayaro, UPN: votes received, 41,954, representing 1.21 percent. Alhaji Dr Garba Nadama has been elected governor of Sokoto state.

We will read the results from Oyo State and we have Walter Batu:

Candidate Mr Saka Bayonu, GNPP: votes received, 9,561, 0.34 percent. Candidate Mr Oladele Ojo, NAP: votes received, 5,938, 0.21 percent. Candidate Mr Omololu Olunloyo, NPN: votes received, 1,650,531, 68 percent. Candidate Mr Lekan Balogun, NPP: votes received, 42,216, 1.49 percent. Candidate Mr Daudu, PRP: votes received 6,800, 0.24 percent. And candidate Chief Bola Ige, UPN: votes received, 1,125,164, 39.06 percent. Mr Omolulu Olunloyo, NPN, elected governor of Oyo State.

Now for the results from Borno State:

Candidate Alhaji Asheik Jarma, NPN received 615,170 votes, making 56.30 percent of the total vote. Candidate Alhaji Mohamed Abba Gana of GNPP received 266,142 votes, making 24.32 percent of the total vote. Candidate Alhaji Mohammed Goniof UPN received 142,072 votes, making 2.98 percent. Candidate Alhaji Abdul Rasak of PRP received 29,763 votes, making 2.72 percent. Candidate Alhaji Isa Usman of NPP received 24,922 votes making 2.28 percent. The candidate for NAP withdrew from the race but the votes received is 15,386 votes, 1.41 percent of tthe total votes. Alhaji Asheik Jarma of NPN was elected governor of Borno State.

Now for the results from Cross River State, over to Jim Madike:

Candidate Mr William Agban Effiong, GNPP: votes received, 10,633, which represents 0.42 percent. Candidate Col Addie Akpang Utuk, NAP; votes received, 8,913, which representes 0.35 percent. Candidate Senator Donald Etiebet, NPN: votes received, 1,549,758, which represents 60.98 percent. Candidate Chief Effiong Udoh Okon, NPP: votes received, 35,329, which represents 1.39 percent. Candidate Mr Udona Akpang, PRP; votes received, 8,040, which represents 0.32 percent.and candidate Chief U.J. Esuene, UPN: votes received, 928,740, representing 36.54 percent. Senator Donald Etiebet is elected the governor of the Cross River State.

The results were released and signed by the chief federal electoral officer of the federation, Alhaji Tambo Godio.

Further Results

AB161615 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Eight more results of the gubernatorial elections held last Saturday have been announced by the Federal Electoral Commission, Fedeco.

In Rivers State Chief Melford Okilo of the NPN [National Party of Nigeria] was reelected governor with 1,886,261 votes. He scored 80.70 percent. The NPP [Nigeria People's Party] candidate, Chief Kempe Ejadin, came second with 259,002 of the votes representing 11.08 percent while the third candidate, Chief Ogosin Ali Akenne of the UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria] received 156,402 votes or 6.69 percent. Chief George Worme of the GNPP [Great Nigeria People's Party] got 18,877 of the votes or 0.81 percent. Mr Joseph Egbani Kuvi of the NAP [Nigeria Advance Party] scored 11,619 or 0.50 percent while Chief Kiw Eberthrate for the PRP [People's Redemption Party] had 5,219 or 0.22 percent.

Kaduna State also went to the NPN with Alhaji Lawal Keita polling 2,114,049 votes, giving him 64.94 percent. Alhaji Musa Musawa of the PRP had 480,169 votes or 14.75 percent while 420,526 of the Kaduna votes or 12.92 percent went to Dr Yunus Yusuf of the NPP. Alhaji Mohammed Jamari of the UPN received 135,911, representing 4.18 percent. Alhaji Mohammed Sabi Inuhu of the GNPP secured 71,401 votes or 2.19 percent while Mohammed Haruna Danladi for NAP got 33,118 votes to earn him 1.02.

In Benue State, incumbent Governor Aper Aku of the NPN finished first with 497,355. He is, therefore, reelected by 62.98 percent of the total votes cast in Benue State. Mr Paul Inungo of the NPP placed second with 392,882 votes or 41.02. Mr Charles Sama of the UPN polled 27,121 votes to score 2.85 percent. He was closely followed by Dr I. Adum of the GNPP who got 12,623 votes or 1.55 percent. The NAP candidate, Mr A. Degyire, received 7,894 or 0.95 percent while Mr G. Agan of the PRP got 4,692 or 0.65 percent.

So for the results of the gubernatorial elections in 15 states have been announced by the national headquarters of Fedeco in Lagos. The NPN candidates in 11 of these states were elected. These include Bendel, Bauchi, Niger, Borno, Cross River, and Sokoto. Others are Oyo, Anambra, Rivers, Kaduna, and Benue States. The UPN has won in three states, Lagos, Ogun, and Kwarra, while the PRP has taken one, which is Kano. The remaining results are being expected from Ondo, Plateau, Imo, and Gongola States.

NPN Wins in Gongola

AB161805 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpt] From Gongola, Alhaji Bamanga Mohammed Tukur of the National Party of Nigeria, NPN, has been declared elected as governor of Gongola State. He scored 500,207 votes, which represents 46.67 percent of the total number of votes cast. Reverend Wilson Sabiya of the Unity Party of Nigeria, UPN, scored 347,463 or 32.42 percent. The former governor, Alhaji Abubakar Barde, scored 181,474 votes or 16.93 percent. The other candidates, Mr Festus Bagula, Great Nigeria People's Party, GNPP, Alhaji Salitu Abubakar Gombi of the People's Redemption Party, PRP, and Mr Elkanah Chahari of the Nigeria Advance Party, NAP, followed in that order.

NPP Governor Reelected in Imo

AB162145 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Ten more results of the gubernatorial elections held last Saturday have been announced by the Federal Electoral Commission, Fedeco.

The Imo State incumbent governor, Chief Sam Mbakwe, was reelected with 952,886 votes or 66.91 percent. The NPN [National Party of Nigeria] candidate, Chief Collins Obi, received 662,787 votes, or 39.59 percent. Dr O. Emenike of the GNPP [Great Nigeria People's Party] had 17,817 votes, representing 1.06 percent. The UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria] candidate, Chief S.G. Ekeyawu, got 16,802 votes or 1 percent. Chief V.A.O. Onooha of the PRP [People's Redemption Party] received 8,496 votes, representing 0.5 percent. The NAP [Nigeria Advance Party] candidate, Chief N.O. Hosu, had 15,284 votes or 0.90 percent.

So far the results of the gubernatorial elections in 17 states have been announced by the national headquarters of the Fedeco in Lagos. The NPN candidates in 12 of these states were elected. These include Bendel, Bauchi, Niger, Borno, Cross River, and Sokoto. Others are Oyo, Anambra, Rivers, Kaduna, Benu, and Gongola States. The UPN has won in three states: Lagos, Ogun, and Kwarra. The PRP has taken one, which is Kano, while the NPP retained Imo State.

Doma Results Void

AB162045 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Federal Electoral Commissioner in Plateau State, Alhaji Umaro Audi, has canceled the results of last Saturday's gubernatorial election in Doma constituency of the state following alledged reports of election malpractices.

Addressing a news conference in Jos, Alhaji Umoro said that an investigation showed that some voters voted more than once, while underaged children also voted in the area. He stated that the complaints came from the police, Federal Electoral Commission officials, and political parties. The electoral commissioner remarked that the results for the state would not be released until figures for the area were received.

Election Results Withheld

AB162155 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The Federal Electoral Commission, Fedeco, has announced measures to forestall further malpractices in the remaining three elections. Addressing a news conference in Lagos this evening, Mr Justice Victor Ovie-Whiskey said he has directed that for the remaining polls copies of the results sheets should be handed over to members of the police and Nigeria's security organizations' agents on duty at the polling stations. He said that this will enable disputed results to be authenticated by cross-checking with copies in the possession of the security agents.

Mr Justice Ovie-Whiskey disclosed that he had received complaints about serious election malpractices in Anambra, Ondo, and Oyo States and that they are taking up careful investigations into the complaints. The Fedeco boss emphasized that he had called for figures from those states and assured the nation that any existing anomaly would be rectified. The chairman said that the results of the elections in Ondo and Plateau States were being withheld pending fresh elections in areas where election malpractices have been proved. He, therefore, appealed for calm so that the rest of the elections could be conducted in a free and peaceful atmosphere.

Ogun Results Contested

AB161600 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The minister of state for special duties, Chief Olu Awotesu, has called for the cancellation of last Saturday's gubernatorial election in Ogun State (?following reports of) widespread electoral malpractices. In addition, Chief Awotesu wants the inspector general of police to assure his party supporters of their safety at the polling booths during subsequent elections.

Presenting some of the victims of the political violence that occurred in several parts of Ogun State last Saturday to newsmen, the minister also catalogued a series of atrocities committed by Unity Party of Nigeria, UPN, supporters. He said that not less than three people were killed with many seriously wounded while property valued at millions of naira were destroyed by the UPN thugs.

Rioting in Ibadan

AB161420 Paris AFP in English 1404 GMT 16 Aug 83

[By Francois-Xavier Harispe]

[Excerpt] Lagos, Aug 16 (AFP) — Tension has increased noticeably in many parts of Nigeria amid claims of vote-rigging and electoral fraud as partial results from Saturday's elections for 19 state governors hinted at a landslide for the party of President Shehu Shagari. Mr Shagari, candidate of the National Party of Nigeria (NPN), was re-elected a week earlier in the first of a series of polls to renew the west African country's federal and state governments. The presidential election passed off relatively calmly, despite objections to some of the results from two of Mr Shagari's five opponents.

Rioting was reported today in Ibadan, the main city of west Nigeria with a population in the region of five million. Ibadan is the capital of Oyo State and traditionally a bastion of the opposition Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN), and reports that it had been won by the NPN triggered burning of polling stations and attacks on government vehicles and the homes of leading NPN members. Oyo is one of three states now under curfew. The others are Ondo, one of its neighbours (where results still have to be announced but which is rumoured to have fallen to the NPN), and Plateau in Nigeria's middle belt.

Demonstrations and public rallies have been banned in several other states. This is the case in two eastern states, Anambra and Imo, which strongly supported former President Nnamdi Azikiwe's Nigerian People's Party (NPP) in the previous elections, in 1979. Anambra has already been declared a victory for the NPN, and there are rumours that the same thing will happen in Imo. Plateau, the third state with an NPP governor last time round, has had a similar ban imposed on top of the curfew.

Official sources said that the police were in firm control throughout the federation, adding that for the time being there was no question of calling in the army. (In the final days of the election campaign President Shagari said that he would not hesitate to call in the army in the event of serious disorders.)

The outgoing governors of Anambra and Oyo have publicly accused the Federal Electoral Commission (Fedeco) — which is responsible for organising the various polls and supervising the count — of deliberately rigging the votes and have refused to accept the official results in their own states. The incumbent governor in Imo State jumped the gun on Fedeco by announcing the result according to his own calculations, based on figures from his agents at each polling station.

Well-informed sources in the capital said that any unusual swing towards the NPN (which holds nine of the 12 states declared so far) would be the result of enthusiastic local initiatives, and not some nationwide "fiddling" by the party's federal headquarters. [Words indistinct] means that Mr Shagari, a northerner, will be replaced as presidential candidate by someone from another part of Nigeria once he has completed his maximum of two-terms in office.

NPN officials from both east and west Nigeria were going all out to do well at the elections for governor in the belief that the region which got the best results would provide the next presidential candidate, the sources said. Meanwhile, a police spokesman said that the situation was "entirely under control". In the 1979 elections the NPN won the elections for governor in only seven states.

UPPER VOLTA

CNR Restricts Former Political Leaders

AB162000 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, this morning received leaders of former political parties in our country. Nine of them attended this meeting convened by the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, CNR. They included the two former heads of state, Maurice Yameogo and General Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana, the former prime minister of the third republic, Dr Joseph Conombo, Mr Gerard Kango Ouedraogo, (Kanu Wese Issa), Moussa Kardougou and (Nou Kidibe) of the national division of the African Democratic Rally, and Ali Nankwande and Joseph Ouedraogo of the Upper Voltan Democratic Rally.

The CNR chairman spoke directly and firmly to these former political leaders. First, he reminded them of the dissolution of political parties, a decision made by the CNR in its message of 4 August 1983. Next, the CNR chairman explained the political orientation chosen by the 4 August Movement, that is, the revolution. This choice, he said, is the result of the overall negative nature of past political experiences. Therefore, Capt Sankara said, after more than 20 years of political adventure, hesitation, and groping in the dark, the country needs something else. The CNR, with the support of the people, has decided to choose the path of the revolution. This revolution, he said, holds out its hand to all citizens who are aware of their responsibilities and want to strive for the real development of Upper Volta. Nevertheless, the CNR chairman said the Upper Voltan revolution, which guarantees the respect and dignity of all the people, will not accept that its accessibility and its understanding are taken for weakness. The CNR's reaction, he added, would be equal to the degree of hostility shown it. In this regard, Capt Sankara said that the CNR is aware of the attitude of some of these politicians who, according to him, have already undertaken actions that do not fit the present situation. He, therefore, warned them against any disrespect for the revolution. Capt Sankara pointed out that instructions would be given to the Ministry of the Interior and Security.

Another aspect of the meeting between the head of state and the former leaders of Upper Voltan politics concerns their movement. Henceforth, the CNR chairman said, the former leaders of political parties may not move outside the districts in which they live without notifying the Ministry of the Interior and Security. Second, they are forbidden to receive more than three visitors at a time. Third, and finally, they may receive foreign visitors only with the permission of the Ministry of the Interior and Security. With these measures, Capt Sankara concluded, the CNR aims to prevent any weakness in the revolutionary procedure.

Present at the meeting with the CNR chairman during the meeting was Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, commander in chief of the High Command of the National Armed Forces, and Major Sallam Kabore, national chairman of the Revolutionary Defense Committees.

AFP: Revolutionary Committees May Lead to Abuses

AB141420 Paris AFP in French 1126 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 14 Aug (AFP) — The establishment of "the revolution's defense committees" in Upper Voltan districts, towns, and villages has caused concern among some Upper Voltans who fear that the (?distribution) of weapons to civilians may lead to abuses. This feeling prevails among some observers in Ouagadougou at a time when these committees are the subject of numerous communiques on the national radio station with slogans such as "ready for the revolution."

On the night of 4 August, just after his coup d'etat and overthrow of Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, Captain Thomas Sankara in a radio broadcast called for the establishment of "the revolution's defense committees which will participate in the great patriotic struggle of the National Council of the Revolution and which will prevent internal and external enemies from harming our people." As a result, subsequently numerous Upper Voltans, including many youths, joined these committees. According to witnesses, the enlistment process was often carried out in the open and long lines could be seen.

According to sources in Ouagadougou, these committees will "channel the popular will for the consolidation of the revolution" and will have four functions in the political, military, cultural, and socioeconomic sectors. The political cell will essentially oversee the mobilization of the masses and their "political and revolutionary formation," according to Major Sal Kabore, president of the defense committees whose statements have been carried by the Upper Voltan press.

The military cell will be charged with the (?armed) defense of its districts and villages. In this regard, Maj Kabore has tried to reassure the nation and explained that "the armed militants will not terrorize the population or be a nuisance, but will only defend the population against an eventual act of aggression by the enemy." For this, the militants will undergo military training.

The cultural unit will be in charge of developing the national cultural heritage, and revolutionary theaters "will denounce reactionaries, bourgeoisie, imperialism colonialism, and neocolonialism," it is learned in Ouagadougou. Finally, the socioeconomic unit will try to undertake various activities related to health such as the repair of dispensaries, economic activities like the construction of roads, and commercial activities like controling prices of traders' commodities.

In the operation of these committees, "a democratic spirit should always prevails," it is indicated in the Upper Voltan capital. In its latest edition, the Upper Voltan weekly newspaper, *Carrefour Africain*, feels the creation of such committees is "a wise" thing to do, but would like to see them "streamline" to "avoid excesses from the grassroots." The newspaper also calls for some screening in the membership of these committees so that people of "doubtful morals" would be rejected. The weekly concludes that "the defense committees should not be used as a means of settling grudges," and this seems to express the feeling of a large number of Upper Voltans.

AFP Reports 'Difficult' Economic Situation

AB170910 Paris AFP in English 0751 GMT 17 Aug 83

[By Patrick van Roekeghem]

[Text] Ouagadougou, Aug 17 (AFP) — The political instability wracking Upper Volta in past months has considerably aggravated the difficult economic situation of one of the poorest countries in the world. Worried businessmen say the new Revolutionary Council set up by paratroop Captain Thomas Sankara after his coup here two weeks ago is going to have its work cut out restoring confidence.

Periods of crisis and political tension have afflicted this west African state for over a year. Last November the Saye Zerbo military regime fell after two years in power. An army doctor, Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, took over. Last May he dropped Capt. Sankara from the premiership and placed him in detention for a month. Then on the night of last Aug. 4, the captain took his revenge, ousting Major Ouedraogo only moments after he had finished broadcasting an independence anniversary message to the nation.

One aspect of these repeated crises has been the closure of the landlocked state's borders, which has hampered economic activity when the country is already badly hit by the world recession. In addition, curfew has been in force for many months. It has complicated the proper working of many firms. Staff have had to sleep at their places of work. Visitors have become much rarer. The hotels at the moment have at best only five percent occupancy. The tourist season looks badly compromised. There has been a spate of cancellations of hotel bookings. "How could it be otherwise?" a hotel employee asked. "The borders still remain closed at night. The airport is still under guard by armed soldiers, and the airlines have been forced to rearrange their flight times to abide by the curfew."

Heads of major companies call the economy stagnant. They are talking of having to lay off up to 25 percent of their staff if there is no improvement in the near future. "Our general expenses remain the same even when business isn't moving," one explained. "The electricity we pay for here is among the most expensive in the world. The drop in economic activity and supply problems means we are going to be forced to take very tough recovery measures."

Capt Sankara is held to be fully aware of the economic difficulties, and some of his initial statements about getting Upper Volta moving along the path of progress have been well received. But there are fears that the "new revolution" he is propounding and its radical leftist terminology could excite suspicion and fear in some quarters. The captain has however, made a point of uttering reassurances on that score. But everybody starts hurrying home at 6 p.m., for fear of being caught outside during curfew and being shot at in the legs. An hour later, the city is dead until dawn, when the streets come back to life.

Algerian Envoy Meets With Sankara, Comments

AB160850 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Captain Thomas Sankara this afternoon received His Excellency Brahim Haissa, the ambassador of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. The Algerian diplomat came to meet the new authorities of our country. During the meeting, the Algerian ambassador and the head of state discussed cooperation between our two countries. At the end of the meeting, His Excellency Haissa explained the reasons for his visit to Andrea Simpore.

[Begin recording] [Haissa] I came to meet the new Government of Upper Volta and its leaders, in particular the leaders of the National Council of the Revolution, CNR, chaired by Capt Thomas Sankara, the head of state.

It is with great interest and sympathy that Algeria has been following the present events in Upper Volta, and we think that after 20 years of independence, it is time for the Upper Voltan people, who we know are politically mature, to do away with the humiliation and exploitation they have been subjected to for so long.

[Unidentified reporter] A revolutionary regime has been in power in our country since 4 August. Within what framework does your country intend to cooperate with Upper Volta?

[Haissa] You see, Algeria has relations with all countries in the world regardless of their social and political regimes. We have normal relations with all countries on the African Continent, but it is quite obvious that because of our revolution in Algeria, our relations are stronger and much more dynamic with countries whose policies are closest to those of Algeria. Algeria has never wanted to impose its policies on others. All people are sovereign. We have never attempted to export our revolution because a revolution cannot be exported as has been stated by the Algerian leaders as well as the leaders of the CNR. We cooperate with all countries on the African Continent, progressive countries in particular.

[Unidentified reporter] A few years ago there were special days set aside for enhancing friendship between Upper Volta and Algeria and since then these meetings have stopped. Will they be revived?

[Haissa] In any case, we are at the disposal of the Upper Voltan Government to organize these meetings, these days of friendship, the cultural week, specific Algerian exhibitions in Upper Volta, or specific Upper Voltan exhibitions in Algeria. We are open to this wide range of cooperation.

[Simpore] You must have discussed other international and African issues. If so, what were they?

[Haissa] We only discussed the (?strengthening) of relations between our two countries. We did not discuss other issues concerning the African Continent.

[Unidentified reporter] When he was prime minister, the president of the CNR met his Algerian counterpart and was to visit Algeria. Did you discuss this possibility with him today?

[Haissa] No this was not discussed. It is true that when he was prime minister Capt Sankara visited Algeria. You know that leaders from friendly countries are always welcome in our country, but this was not discussed during our meeting.

[Unidentified reporter] In the Chadian crisis, Algeria has called for negotiations. Yet recently Algeria was criticized for not allowing planes sent by the UN to fly over its airspace. What is Algeria's exact stand?

[Haissa] I reject such an assertion. Algeria has never prevented or refused aircraft carrying humanitarian aid to fly over its airspace. In fact, Algeria's stand is logical and we are faithful to our policies because we are against any foreign interference in Chad, regardless of where it comes from, and this is why we refuse flights over our airspace by all aircraft transporting military aid and armaments to the Chadian battlefield. [end recording]

Sankara Congratulates Congo on Anniversary
AB161335 Dakar PANA in French 1300 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 16 Aug (ACI/PANA) — Captain Thomas Sankara, president of the National Council of the Revolution (CNR) of Upper Volta sent on Sunday, his "warmest and militant" congratulations to President Sassou-Nguesso on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Congolese revolution.

In his message, Capt Sankara said he was convinced that the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries will be strengthened and that through their joint efforts they "will contribute to the advent of a new world where justice and peace will prevail."

"We highly appreciate the commendable initiative you took to discuss with the heads of state present in your country the fractricidal conflict which is tearing the Chadian people apart and your efforts in trying to find a quick and peaceful solution to this painful problem," added Capt Sankara who concluded by wishing "complete success" for the Brazzaville meeting.

ANGOLA

ANGOP Cited on UNITA, RSA Buildup, Cangamba

MB170707 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] Official sources told the Angolan news agency [ANGOP] in Luanda yesterday that South Africa's destabilizing actions against the Angolan people have assumed new and large-scale proportions. In addition to reinforcing the manpower and equipment in the positions that it has been occupying in southern Angola since August 1981, large movements of war materiel, estimated at more than 10,000 men, including regular troops and mercenaries of the Buffalo Battalion and of the so-called National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], were recently detected heading toward Angola. All this seems to indicate that the prospects of an imminent launching of operations to occupy other areas in the country is in the wings.

According to the sources contacted by ANGOP yesterday, the attack a few days ago against Cangamba was part of a large-scale plan with that objective. Following the heavy defeat inflicted by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] on the mercenary forces in the service of South Africa at Cangamba, the racists felt compelled to intervene directly in the operation in an attempt to save the situation. Thus, on Sunday morning beginning at 0600 they launched an intense air attack on Cangamba, in Moxico, where about 3,000 of their mercenaries launched an attack with the aim of occupying the small township situated in a desert area. In their hasty retreat they were unable to remove the large quantities of ammunition and other types of war equipment that were scattered on the terrain. The arms seized show their origins. They are from NATO and South Africa. This was noted by journalists who made an on-the-spot inspection.

According to information supplied to ANGOP, the direct intervention of the South African racists included successive waves of squadrons of Canberra and Impala aircraft which strafed and bombed with napalm and phosphorous bombs for 5 hours. Canberras have an action range of 2,000 square km [as heard], while Impalas have the capacity to launch eight salvoes. Accordingly, information gathered by ANGOP says that, besides the force on the ground, the aircraft were used against residential areas where there were members of the public, as well as against the ammunition and war equipment which had earlier been abandoned by the lackeys at the scene of the fighting. According to this information, as there was nothing left to defend, since everything had been razed to the ground, the Angolan garrison stationed at the location only tried to safeguard the residents by evacuating them to more secure areas. They also decided to abandon the position, which had been reduced to rubble.

After the air attack, the racists began to land helicopterborne forces transported by its regular forces, mercenaries, and others at the position left by the Angolan forces.

According to people who witnessed the air raids, one can say that Cangamba township has ceased to exist. Nothing remains of it. The attack claimed (?many) lives among the members of the public, even though FAPLA did everything possible to protect them by removing them from the most exposed areas. The evacuation [words indistinct] helicopterborne forces and the realization that there was nothing left to defend. It was arranged that the evacuation should be carried out with minimal losses among the FAPLA, who went on to occupy other defensive positions out of the range of the South African Air Force.

Meanwhile, other sources contacted by ANGOP, the Angolan news agency, denied reports spread from Windhoek, capital of South-West Africa/Namibia, alleging that the Angolan forces are equipped with Soviet SAM-8 missiles. Local observers also note that it does not make sense that the South African Air Force would be operating with impunity in Angolan airspace if Angola had such equipment. This itself refutes the news spread by the apartheid regime.

UNITA's Savimbi Links Angola Talks, Namibia

MB161326 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1312 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Windhoek, Aug 16, SAPA — The leader of the Angolan guerrilla movement, UNITA, Dr Jonas Savimbi, today publicly linked negotiations in Angola with SWA/Namibian independence. A statement by Dr Savimbi from UNITA's Paris office was published in Windhoek, following two weeks of fighting between UNITA guerrillas and MPLA government troops for the strategic town of Cangamba in Moxico Province in Southeastern Angola. Both sides claimed to have scored major successes in the offensive, but there has been no independent confirmation of who was in control of Cangamba.

Dr Savimbi's statement today said: "The full-scale military offensive launched on August 1 against the minority regime of Luanda and its Cuban allies continues. UNITA's position remains that direct negotiations with the MPLA leading to the formation of a government of national unity could put an end to the civil war (in Angola) and pave the way for independence for Namibia."

Political observers in Windhoek said Dr Savimbi's statement could indicate future trends in negotiations over the region. They pointed out that the statement came at a time when the United Nations secretary general, Mr Xavier Perez de Cuellar, was yet to announce whether he had decided to travel to South Africa, SWA/Namibia and possibly Angola on a fact-finding mission aimed at speeding up SWA/Namibian independence. Mr Perez de Cuellar was commissioned on May 31 by the UN Security Council to examine methods of expediting the implementation of a UN plan for the disputed territory's independence.

The United States, supported by South Africa, has demanded the withdrawal of an estimated 20,000 Cuban troops sationed in Angola in tandem with a settlement in SWA/Nambia. Both the UN and the frontline African states reject linkage of the two issues. Angola has claimed that South Africa was giving logistical support to UNITA, but South African Government spokesmen have repeatedly denied the claims and said its forces were operative in parts of Angola only at times when it was thought necessary to act against SWAPO insurgents.

Although the exact position in Moxico Province remained unclear, reports from Luanda and Lisbon indicated heavy fighting in the past week. On Sunday, the official Angolan news agency ANGOP, reported that Angolan Government troops had beaten off a UNITA guerrilla attack, killing 1,100 rebels and capturing quantities of arms and ammunition. It added that 53 government troops had been killed in the fighting.

Yesterday, UNITA said in a statement from Lisbon that it had captured Cangamba from the MPLA in an assault by three UNITA brigades. The onslaught followed an 11-day siege, in which 709 of the defenders had been killed, including 120 Cuban soldiers. UNITA said it had taken prisoner 165 government troops, while the movement's own losses numbered 63 dead and 200 wounded.

BOTSWANA

Gaborone Reports Mugabe's 12 Aug Press Conference

MB151345 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1138 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Press conference held by Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe in the studios of Radio Botswana in Gaborone on 12 August — recorded]

[Text][Mugabe] Comrade President, ladies and gentlemen, comrades and friends:

I have very little to say really, except to reiterate what we have on every occasion stated to the government and the people of Botswana, that is, our heartfelt gratitude for this visit which we are making for the first time at an official level after Zimbabwe's independence. And as I said we came in the spirit that bound us during the liberation struggle to express to our brothers of Botswana the gratitude of the people of Zimbabwe for all the help, which was material, political, diplomatic, moral, that we received during our liberation struggle, to say to them: Well done, brothers, we are now free. Zimbabwe has rightly taken its place in the sphere of independent nations of the world.

And secondly we also came in the spirit to help intensify our cooperation, which already exists, and enable it to take off. We can cement our relations at a new level now, that of an independent Zimbabwe as related to the independent Republic of Botswana. There are many areas of cooperation where relations need to be cemented, and I am happy that we have discussed these relations. Ministerial and official groups have been discussing those areas, and what we have discussed, and we are able to give to the press, will be contained in a communique which shall be issued to you by the appropriate officials.

But I want to say that having made this visit and seen a few places, I go back, and I am sure this is also the case on the part of members of my team, with very, very great impressions indeed of the level of development which has taken place each year, when one realizes, remembers, that the legacy that Botswana got from British rule, from Britain, was a legacy of poverty, underdevelopment, ignorance, and disease. To see that in the educational field so tremendous strides have been covered. In the sphere of health also tremendous strides have been made. In the sphere of economic development, the infrastructure so much work has been done. New roads: A continuous exercise to chart out more roads, telecommunications systems, to provide more electricity, more water infrastructure to the people. Really these efforts or these strides are a lesson to all of us. We are only young states. We have inherited a be ter infrastructure than they have inherited during independence, I mean at the time of independence. And so we have learned quite a lot and will go back with those memories, but, of course, we go back not just with mental impressions, but with feelings in our hearts, of the kindness and hospitality we have received here, the friendship that was shown us throughout. It was pula pula [things went smoothly] the whole way through, and I hope the rains do come this year, and bless us. Give a blessing to our relations.

We are within the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC], and within SADCC there is scope for bilateral relations apart from the multilateral relations that we are working out, and I can assure you that Zimbabwe is going to do its best to relate to Botswana in as positive a way as possible. It is in our interest that we, the trade partners, it is in our interest that we recognize the geographical and historical factors that have brought us together, that we recognize that there is nothing [word indistinct] of our people which makes it necessary that our economies be interdependent. We developed infrastructures which relate in a positive way to one another. That is our belief, and I can assure you as leader of my government I am going to do my best to get us positively to relate to Botswana in a variety of ways, and may I say, you Comrade President, to you, as the head of state and government, thank you, to your government, to you personally. Thanks to the people of Botswana for all that they did to make our visit the tremendous success it has been. We shall certainly go back home with vivid memories and shall report accordingly to our people. It has been a successful visit, and we do hope that those who would want to divide us by their maneuvers will learn one thing, that we are a united people. We, who are positive in southern africa, we will stand for justice, we will stand for democracy. I am prepared to be a model in our system for that democracy, for that justice, for that humanity to continue to exiit in our territories as well as to have its influence over South Africa and Namibia. With those words may I thank you once again for affording me this opportunity to address you.

[Name indistinct] of *Botswana Guardian*. Mr Prime Minister, the recent controversy on biased reporting by Western media and the explusion of the BBC correspondent from Zimbabwe, I think, makes one wonder whether critical nongovernment press in the frontline states will be allowed to function without being accused of being irresponsible, or being accused of irresponsible reporting. What would be the prime minister's comment?

[Mugabe] No, I do not think that an inference should be drawn from the restricted premises which you have given your syllogism. What you are saying is because we expelled one, the reporter — or was it misreporter? — therefore, there cannot exist a sphere of democratic reporting or a sphere in Zimbabwe in which people can report free. We certainly welcome criticism. We cannot do without criticism, either within our own system or from outside our own sphere. That is necessary to keep us on the right track and to remind us that there are areas of wrong and

areas of right. But when a reporter takes it upon himself to misreport deliberately and does so continuously, he is an incorrigible character. Well, what alternative is there to a government but to expel him, and we expelled him because we believed his reporting was so blatantly unobjective, subjective, and wrong. We want objective reporters. He is not the only reporter, he was not the only one, there are other reporters. So we welcome objective reporters.

We are not against them reporting on those things which we do wrong as long as they are not biased. But if they are biased against us, what is the use of having a person who comes deliberately to portray an awful image of you? That is his task, and there are reporters who have those tasks. They are paid for it. You should know it from your experience. They are paid to misreport, and we cannot tolerate that type of reporter. We would be doing our people an injustice if we allowed in Zimbabwe, indeed if any frontline state, allowed its territory to be used for purposes of furthering these reports. By the way, we did not ban the BBC. We banned the reporter. [laughter]

[Name indistinct], correspondent of *The Chronicle* and *Guardian*. Comrade Prime Minister, recently we have heard rumors of discussions that had been going on between ZANU-PF and ZAPU-PF on unity. Could you report to us how far the talks have gone? That is the first question. The second question is, we understand in the past there has been some misunderstanding between Zimbabwe and Botswana on some dissidents who were reported to have crossed into Botswana. Has there been any discussions on this question, and what agreement finally has been reached? The third question is on the fate of the Zimbabwean refugees who are in Dukwe. Has there been any discussion on this question, and is the Zimbabwean Government prepared to accept them back into Zimbabwe under what conditions?

[Mugabe] Discussions on unity: Yes, there are discussions which have been taking place between two teams, one set up by ZANU and another set up by ZAPU, and their idea is to try and work out modalities for achieving unity. We already have ZAPU in government just as we have also representatives, three representatives, of the white community in government two at the Cabinet level and one as a deputy minister. We believe that we should continue that way, that ZAPU has been our ally, yet they have offended, and offended against the people of Zimbabwe in quite a big way by hiding huge quantities of arms, but on that question we have been very objective ourselves. We are aware that some are more guilty than others, and others, some in ZAPU, never knew about the hiding of the arms too. So we have drawn a line between the two groups, but we have not proceeded to proscribe the party because of that which would have happened in other circumstances.

I think it would have happened in the United States if the Republicans, being in government had discovered that their counterparts, the Democrats, had on their farms hidden huge quantities of arms which were unknown to the Republican government. I do not know what the situation would have been, but what we have done is not taken cognizance of: that in fact we have been fair in our treatment of ZAPU. There are these talks which must take place and which will continue to take place until we achieve unity. I have not yet got the report back from our team, but about a week ago they had a meeting.

Unfortunately, this appears to be negotiating in the press, which might ruin the chances of our achieving greater unity as soon as possible, but of course nothing can be achieved by ZAPU if some people in ZAPU, as tends to be the case at the moment, take one stand. I am saying some people, really referring to those in the leadership, take one stand and others in the leadership take another stand. It appears there is that division amongst them as to how unity should be achieved. When I go back I will be briefed on what progress or lack of progress has been made, and naturally discussions will continue until we are in a position where unity can take place, or if it cannot take place, then we know for certain that there is a greater area of disagreement between us than the area of disagreement, which I do not think is the case. [sentence as heard] The people want unity, and I think we will work as effectively as possible to achieve it. So, before I know the facts, there is very little I can give you before your paper, but I am sure you will be listening in to the radio and you will get to know whether [word indistinct] achieved unity, I mean achieved some progress or not.

The question of dissidents: Well, the Government of Botswana and ourselves have not started today discussing this question. We started some time ago, and some progress has been made on this question of security, and now we can cooperate on it, and I am glad that there is agreement on measures that should be taken by both sides on how greater security in our region can be achieved. So to us, that really is no longer a question. Botswana will return any persons who want to seek refuge, when they are really coming to use Botswana territory for furthering acts of lawlessness on Zimbabwean soil.

The question of the people at Dukwe, the children and so on: This has been discussed also, and the modalities will be worked out. I do not see anything the people at Dukwe need fear when they get back except those who have committed crimes. Of course it is not everybody really who have committed crimes. Some were abducted as children, others might have run away in fear of what might happen to themselves either by the dissidents or when the army went into their area and so they are free to come back, and free to be resettled as ordinary people and take part in the activities which we are effecting for the development of the country. Both these matters are being handled and handled satisfactorily by our two sides.

I am (Dereck James), BBC. Mr Prime Minister, Mr Nkomo has said that he has written to you about his possible return to Zimbabwe. What action will he face if he does return?

[Mugabe] He has not written to me about his return. It is not true, and I do not think he has said so. We have time and again, time and time again made it known to him, to his men in Zimbabwe, that is, ZAPU leadership, to the world as a whole that he is free to return. Now, I am not a policeman. I am only head of government. I say only because there are areas where I cannot intervene unless I am doing so administratively. If the police have charges, and I do not hear that these are really serious charges which they might want to prefer on him, we cannot stop them preferring those charges, but I have said from the face of those

charges — from what the police have said — they are not real charges to prevent him coming back home. I do not see him go to prison for them in the event of he being found guilty. It might require a little fine and that kind of thing, but I do not think that is what is preventing him coming back. I think he has got his own strategy.

So he has not written to me on the question of whether he can come back or not. He has written to me on issues, historical issues, that are rather ephemeral, idealistic, how he visualizes them. We can go about on the whole situation of dissidents, but in any too idealistic a way. All the same, we have been studying these documents. Perhaps sooner or later I will be meeting representatives from his party who want our views on the questions he has raised, that is the whole volume, which begins with events at Lancaster, elections, whether they were free and fair. He seems to conclude that the elections were not free and fair. And where do we start from now [Mugabe laughs] if elections were not free and fair? But he is free to come back home, and we will not molest him unless he... [Mugabe leaves sentence unfinished]

[Unidentified journalist] *Monitor Tribune*. Your Excellency, you stressed more on movements between Botswana and Zimbabwe citizens. How do you, Mr Prime Minister, assure Botswanans, the travelers in Zimbabwe, when they hear some rumors of attacks on travelers, you know, within Zimbabwe? Will Botswanans be safe when they go to Zimbabwe?

[Mugabe] Rumors of attacks? I have not heard of those attacks. [laughter] Like which ones? [laughter] Like which ones, if you might expand?

[Unidentified journalist] I do not think it is necessary to expand, sir.

[Mugabe] Why? [laughter]

[Heinz Krupp] From SOLIDARITY NEWS SERVICE. Mr Prime Minister, I would like to ask you, with the history of South African attacks of destabilization against SADCC countries, what arrangements, if any, have been made by SADCC countries to cooperate in defending their economic installations against these acts of destabilization by racist South Africa?

[Mugabe] I think that question was asked in Maputo, or something like it, and I think our chairman answered something to the effect that SADCC was, which is my view too, that SADCC is an economic organization and it discusses economic cooperation.

True, as frontline states, we have a political forum where we discuss political issues and try to discuss ways and means of ensuring better security or assisting the struggles in Namibia and South Africa. True, if we would want a strategy we would have to discuss it as more as frontline states than as SADCC countries until we have decided by way of policy that SADCC should also discuss the political question of our own region. Perhaps from now you should be satisfied that SADCC is an economic, regional organization and deals, therefore, with those issues. I do not know whether our chairman would want to expand. [laughter]

[Unidentified reporter] Sir, could I have the last question please? Very short question and to the point, please?

Mr Prime Minister, I am Jasper Mortimer from the Argus Foreign Service in Johannesburg. The antagonism prevailing between your government and Pretoria is almost as strong as that between Washington and Moscow, or between [laughter] or between Moscow and Beijing. Yet, those countries do talk to each other. They have summit meetings, and they have ministerial and lesser meetings. Are you prepared to adopt a softer tactic toward Pretoria and, for instance, suggest a summit with Mr P.W. Botha? I made note that I think Mr Kaunda's summit took place year almost a year ago.

[Mugabe] On that question we have adopted the posture, and this is Zimbabwe as Zimbabwe, that there is a sphere of political and diplomatic relations and there is a sphere of economic relations. On the political and diplomatic side, where we are rebuffed by South Africa's own apartheid system and the continued illegal occupation of Namibia, it would give South Africa greater encouragement if we were to discuss issues with the Government of South Africa in the political and diplomatic fields and if we went further by establishing diplomatic relations. So, the parallel you are trying to draw, the analogy between our relationship with South Africa and that of the relationship between the Soviet Union and the United States, hardly holds. You have on the one hand, a regime which refuses to completely to listen to the voice of the international community, refuses to heed the wishes of the majority of the people of South Africa, and protects itself by a strategy, internally, to suppress the people of South Africa, externally, by destabilizing our region and carrying out a warfare against us [word indistinct] regime of that nature cannot be compared, you see, with either the United States or the Soviet Union, which is what your analogy tries to do.

And it is in the spirit of the OAU that we refuse to talk with that regime, but in the economic sphere because of the historical reality, we inherited this historical reality that our country was dependent on South Africa for trade, more dependent on South Africa for trade than on any other country. This is, of course, not to say that South Africa has not been dependent on us. We are within Africa probably the largest market South Africa has. They have been to date our largest market. That is what we inherited. Now these relations cannot be overcome overnight, and as we reduce our dependence on South Africa, either by unilateral decisions being taken by us or both those actions and the SADCC endeavors we are making, until we have done that we continue to recognize that relationship. And it that sphere those who deal with trade at an official level if they are [word indistinct] can discuss. This is why there is a trade mission in Harare by South Africa and a trade mission by us in Johannesburg.

That relationship we will accept, but we cannot discuss the question of Namibia with Botha, the question of democracy in South Africa with Botha. What will the purpose be? He must discuss with the leaders of the movement in South Africa, nationalist movements in South Africa. Those are the people with whom he should hold discussions, the leaders of SWAPO. Why should he want to have discussions with us, avoiding the men with whom he should deal on the political question? We begin to be more suspicious, especially that this question is pressed through

journalists, through visitors into Zimbabwe [laughter], and we become more suspicious.

LESOTHO

Ministry Spokesman Comments on Refugee Issue

MB151720 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs says that on several occasions and at various meetings South Africa has stated that the presence of refugees in Lesotho constitutes a threat to their security and demanded that these refugees be either returned to South Africa or be expelled from Lesotho or other countries.

As a signitory to the UN convention on refugees, Lesotho [words indistinct] found it impossible not to abide by its requirements, neither would it abandon its obligations under the convention. For this reason Lesotho would not return the refugees to South Africa. The spokesman contested that refugees were human beings and not mere sacks of coal which could be traded easily.

In her determination to force Lesotho to part with the refugees South Africa has instituted extremely tight controls at border posts which make it absolutely impossible for Basotho to cross the border into South Africa, even for humanitarian reasons. South Africa has threatened to tighten the grip further. Furthermore, South Africa has refused passage of weapons destined for Lesotho as these weapons reach South Africa's harbors, thus South Africa has proved its determination to force refugees out of Lesotho.

The spokesman stated that Lesotho has always received refugees strictly in accordance with the terms of the UN convention on refugees and the government has been able to exercise maximum control ensuring that in no way would South Africa be attacked by those refugees using Lesotho as a springboard. To illustrate this point the spokesman said that South Africa itself has given testimony to the fact that the recent bomb attack on Pretoria, which killed 19 people and injured 200, was from Swaziland and not from Lesotho. Refugees have joined in Lesotho in strict accordance with the terms laid out in the UN refugees convention.

The spokesman observed that were refugees to leave Lesotho there are no guarantees that the destabilization practices of South Africa within the southern African region would come to a halt. He explained further that no country as yet had indicated its willingness to receive the refugees from Lesotho, whilst on the other hand, it would be inhuman to return them to South Africa. He said the latter was completely out and would not be permitted to happen.

The spokesman stated that it was for these reasons that even at this eleventh hour Lesotho now calls upon the international community to restrain South Africa from [word indistinct] pressure in Lesotho to abandon her obligations under the refugees convention by forcing the refugees out of Lesotho. Lesotho is concerned about the future of refugees who would leave Lesotho as a result of South Africa's pressure if the international community ails to restrain that country, particularly as apartheid is still actively rampant in South Africa. The spokesman said the day refugees leave Lesotho would be a sad day for millions of black people of South Africa, for Lesotho, United Nations, OAU, and the world at large.

The foreign affairs spokesman said that in the end if South Africa succeeds in forcing Lesotho to throw out refugees and the international community fails to stem the tide, Lesotho would be left with no alternative but to consider that its first duty is to its own people who are now suffering the sanctions of excruciating border controls and weapons bound for Lesotho.

In conclusion the spokesman said it would do us all some good if South Africa would remove those things which cause people to flee that country, as Lesotho would have no wish to [words indistinct] to South Africa just as she had refused to exchange Mokhetle for Hani.

Secretary Criticizes RSA Racial Policies

MB121419 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] The permanent secretary of foreign affairs, Mr Tom Thabane, says that to the Government of Lesotho racism and racial discrimination is a lifetime issue because the country is wholly surrounded by a regime which wants to perpetuate racial discrimination. Opening a workshop in preparation to the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination held at the United Nations Information Center in Maseru today, Mr Thabane said the Lesotho Government does not want to interfere with the internal affairs of South Africa. Instead Lesotho is interested in mutual advantages that would accrue if South Africa had a normal society.

Mr Thabane, who was speaking on behalf of the minister of foreign affairs, also related to the problems that confront Lesotho because of the racial policies of South Africa. He told the participants that Lesotho has to receive a lot of persons who come to Lesotho for asylum fleeing persecution of racial segregation. He dismissed in toto allegations that Lesotho receives refugees to attract economic support from the international community and added that because of Lesotho's policy the refugees have to be intergrated into her community, which results in their sharing with the local population the meager resources at their disposal.

Mr Thabane pointed out that the SADF attack on Maseru and subsequent border blockage this year all emanate from Lesotho's unwavering opposition to apartheid and her decision to give asylum to people fleeing atrocities of the system of institutionalized racism. He indicated that the South African policy of resettlement is of great concern to the Lesotho Government, but because of her noninterference policies in the internal affairs of a neighboring state, she has decided to leave the matter to South Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE

President Machel Addresses Mocuba Rally 4 August

MB110915 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1100 GMT 10 Aug 83

[Speech by President Samora Machel at rally in Mocuba, Zambezia Province, on 4 August — recorded]

[Excerpts] Thank you residents of Mocuba for this warm welcome that you have given us. We have received a message from the Armed Forces and the security and police forces. The message, which is addressed to our party and government, expresses the existing determination to preserve the hard won independence and freedom of the free, independent, and dignified men today: men of personality; men who build the Mozambique fatherland, the Mozambique nation; men who build the future, a happy and prosperous future. It is a message which indicates that we must allow sacrifices once more. It indicates that we must not fear difficulties. We must know how to transform our difficulties into our schools and lessons.

The message from the Mocuba residents, which has been sent through their district commissioner, indicates the responsibilities of the Mocuba district and its economic, social, cultural, and political viewpoints. The message speaks of the large-scale projects which have been specially planned for Mocuba district. We would say that such projects are like a dream: a dream to see an angel with our eyes in this life we are living. We cannot wait to die in order to see an angel, but we must see it when we are alive. I wonder if I am making myself understood? To dream and speak to God while we are alive and not after we have died. Some wish to die so that they can see God. We want to see God while we are alive. We want to see God. [applause] We do not need to die in order to be happy and have food, clothes, and soap.

I wonder if you heard what we said in Quelimane in June? Did you? You did not, did you? It is a pity because we were speaking not only to Quelimane itself. We were first speaking from Quelimane to all districts of Zambezia Province. Then we spoke from Quelimane to the Mozambique people as a whole, from Rovuma to Maputo.

The struggle of national liberation triumphed in Mozambique. We were victoriously united. Men of Maputo, Gaza, and Inhambane fought and died in Cabo Delgado. Men of Cabo Delgado fought and died in Niassa, Tete, Manica, and Sofala. Men of Zambezia fought and died in Niassa, Cabo Delgado, Tete, Manica, and Sofala. Men of all provinces fought and died to free Zambezia Province.

Now we have armed bandits. Where do they come from? Friends, the colonial army had planes and the most sophisticated weapons here. It had warships, transport planes, helicopters, and warplanes, but we won with repeater rifles. Now, armed bandits: The armed bandit is your cousin; he has cousins here; he has girlfriends here; a girl has an armed bandit for a friend. Is this not so? Girlfriends of armed bandits, raise your hands. The struggle continues. [Crowd shouts: Continues] The armed bandit has his father, mother, wife, brother, and cousin. This is how he manages to survive.

Just imagine, the government is building a factory and armed bandits prevent its construction. Are you going to eliminate famine and nakedness? [Crowd shouts: No] Armed bandits prevent trucks carrying hoes from arriving. Are you going to produce? Then you will die of starvation. Armed bandits prevent trucks carrying cotton, corn, and sunflower seeds from arriving. What are you going to barter with? What are you going to eat? Armed banditsprevent the construction of the center/northeast road stretching from Maputo to Rovuma. Armed bandits are against this, and yet you say they are part of your family. Armed bandits prevent the arrival of fish from Quelimane. You have prawns in Quelimane. Did you hear? However, that inn or restaurant over there does not have fish. Does it have prawns? Why? Why, friends? Do shops have material, salt, soap, needles, pots, spoons, plates, or cups? Why? Where is transport? It is because of your cousins. I have brought my drinking glass. Excuse me, I am going to drink water. I had to bring it with me. You do not want the goods to reach here, do you? You do not want them, because you give shelter to armed bandits. You do not want to fight against armed bandits. We have weapons and uniforms, but you still do not want to fight against armed bandits.

Last year we visited Inhambane and Gaza Provinces. There were armed bandits there. We spoke to the people as we are speaking to you here today. What are we going to do with the armed bandits? It was the people of Gaza, Manjacaze, Inhambane, Vilanculos, Homoine district, Zavala district, and Vilanculos district who answered. Why? Because armed bandits occupied the areas where we want to prospect for oil and exploit gas. Experts from various countries are there, armed bandits then went there. They want to make us poor.

In Gaza they occupied the railway line linking Chiqualaquala and Zimbabwe so that the Mozambique people would stay poor. The armed bandit is not confused; he knows what he wants. He is against development. He is an agent of underdevelopment. We asked the Gaza population what they wanted and the only thing they asked for was weapons. We gave them weapons.

They took the bandits and shot them in public. All bandits that had been captured were shot in Gaza and Inhambane. How many have you shot? You cannot shoot them because they are your cousins. It is because they are from the (Maranja) and Chuabo tribes. They do not come from outside. Do they come from outside? Are they not from Zambezia Province? Are they not (Maranja), Lomwe, and Chuabo tribesmen? We displayed armed bandits in Quelimane. There was a truck full of armed bandits that we had captured. Now it is up to the people of Zambezia to decide what they want to do with those armed bandits. It is not our responsibility. Do you understand? It is up to you to decide what to do to eliminate armed bandits. So, you do not know what you want. How can I fight against armed bandits then? Do you want people of Cabo Delgado to come to fight in Mocuba district? Friends, let us speak frankly. Do you want people of Gaza to come and fight in Mocuba district, and that people of Mocuba to go to Gaza and leave armed bandits here? As long as you are tribalists, armed bandits will continue to exist. Listen

carefully. As long as you are regionalists, racists, armed bandits will continue to exist. Do you understand?

Armed bandits need three elements to operate; namely, tribalism, regionalism, and racism. These are their bases. The struggle continues. [Crowd shouts: Continues] There is a silence. You have not answered what you want to do. What do you want, friends, what? [Crowd's shouts indistinct] Who wants to kill armed bandits? Those who want to kill armed bandits raise your hands. Those who do not want to fight against armed bandits, raise your hands. Those who want armed bandits to live, raise your hands please. Nobody? Who wants to fight armed bandits? Who are they? There are few who are alone. Raise your hands high. All of you want to kill armed bandits, do you not? [Crowd shouts: Yes] Kill our sons? The armed bandit also has a son, but he is a son who is a bandit — naughty, a murderer, criminal.

What do we do with a poisonous snake? [Crowd shouts: Kill] When a cat moves from the village to the bush is it still a cat? [Crowd shouts: No] So, we can eat it. It is not a cat anymore. The armed bandit has left the village and is no longer human. He comes at night, he is a hyena. Do you understand?

You do not have captured bandits here. Look, I will leave it up to the military men. I came here to talk to the military men, but they cannot succeed without your support. You must expose the bandit. You must pursue him with a panga. Do you understand? You must cut his neck off with a panga. If you do that, the armed bandits will be destroyed. I came here specifically to talk to military men. I came to talk to those who operate and work in Zambezia Province. I came to see the training quality of our soldiers, the quality of the commander of the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM, the quality of the political commissar, and the political awareness of the people of Zambezia Province, particularly the districts affected by armed banditry.

I am going to give you jobs. They are not difficult jobs. Do you want me to give you jobs? [Crowd shouts Yes] First, political work. It enables us to know each other and everyone's qualities. If we know each other we are able to know the qualities of everyone. This implies organization. When we know each other we are able to understand our intelligence and strength. Strength is in our arms, our hands, and in our heads. Therefore, we will not take the concept of tribe into account. We will only consider intelligence and knowledge. We will make a person our own ally and our true brother. We know that he is a worker, and that he is not lazy, and the other is not a thief or a black marketeer. He works and lives on his own. Do you understand? When we know ourselves, we begin to discover.However, we must trust each other so that we can eliminiate mistrust, which is the base of tribalism. This country has many ethnic groups. It has blacks, who are the majority. Did you understand? There are whites who are Mozambicans. Do you understand? It seems that you do not agree. I know your problem. You might ask, how can a white man be Mozambican, if those who ruled Mozambique, who used to beat us, collect taxes, and send us to forced labor, were white? This is your problem.

How did chiefs use to live here? Old men, answer this. There are some chiefs here. They are the ones who are giving food to the armed bandits. Are they not? [Crowd shouts: Yes] So why do you not cut their necks off? They are lice because they were living off your blood. They used to sell you. And what about the policemen? Who used to beat you? It was the policeman, who has joined the armed bandits.

General Bonifacio Gruveta is here. He is against armed bandits. How is he going to fight if you hide them? How, if you defend lice? You like lice? I wanted to give you a job. To remove lice. How do you kill lice? How? Like this? [Crowd noises] They stay on your heads. It seems that blood from our heads is delicious. However, when there are many lice what do you do? Water? Cold or hot? [Crowd shouts: Hot] No, I mean when lice are in your blankets. You boil water and then put clothes inside. Lice then die, so do the eggs.

Do you have time to crush lice when there are a great deal of them? [crowd shouts: No] So, why do you not boil water and put the armed bandits inside? [laughter] Why? What are you waiting for? They are killing you one by one. They are killing your children, the old, our mothers, our fathers. Correct? So, what are we waiting for?

Your second mission is to accept that armed bandits are the enemy of the Mozambique people, the enemy of the independence of our country, the enemy of the independence of Mozambique. Did you understand? Banditscreate misery and food shortages. People do not produce because of them, and so we die of famine. They create famine. We understand this. Our enemy. They are not enemies of the government, because it is your government. Power is yours. You are the ones who decide. You met in Maputo to hold the fourth congress and presented all your problems that affect the economic, social, political, and cultural life of the Mozambique people, rather than the people of Zambezia: the people of Mozambique, from Tete to the Indian Ocean and from Rovuma to Maputo.

The bandit has allied himself to the chief and the exploitative settler, he is our enemy of today. We won because we knew how to use the people as our main power. The people made it their own war. Each man and woman defended himself. Schools do not function because of bandits. They are agents of ignorance. If schools do not function, the Mozambique people will remain illiterate, ignorant, and will be kept under superstition. They will not know about technological progress. They will not know how to build factories or roads because they did not go to school. It is because of the armed bandits.

National unity is essential. It begins in the district locality. Unity is strengthened at work. There are Mozambique experts working at that factory. There are bricklayers, carpenters, which have come from many parts of the country. They come from all the country's provinces. More than 3,000 men will come from all provinces. At the moment there are 4,000 men studying in the GDR to learn how to work in that factory. If it was not for the bandit, that factory would have been running this year and would be manufacturing clothes for you. However, if the factory is built and you let the bandits alone, then there will no be cotton for the factory.

The war we waged was not against the Portuguese people. We have always said so. Did you understand? It was against the

Portuguese colonial government. It was against Portuguese colonialism. That is why we waged war. We are allies and friends of the Portuguese people. That is why the Portuguese are here. However, we are against the South Africans because they are racists. They discriminate against blacks, Indians, and some Europeans because their countries are poor. They refuse entry to some whites from Europe only because their countries are poor and because such whites are poor.

They are also discriminated against. This is our stance. This is the land of the poor. Did you understand? We are allies and in solidarity with other peoples who are poor. We are in solidarity with the peoples who fight against banditry, colonialism, domination, and oppression. This is the grandeur of our struggle, our policy. That is why Mozambique enjoys prestige abroad. It is because we are against tribalism, regionalism, and racism. We stand for unity and equality among men. That is why the bandits attack us. This is what I wanted to tell you, my friends. Do you want me to tell more? What do you want?

Finally, I want to thank you. This is such a beautiful rally. I see here men of all races. Mocuba is the land of the future and progress. It is the land where we are going to materialize our policy of killing famine and nakedness. We repeat it — it is the land where we are going to kill famine and nakedness. It will not take long. Usually it takes 18 years for a child to become adult. However, we will make Mocuba the example of socialist progress in this part of Zambezia in less than 18 years, even 10 years. [applause]

To defend our land means to defend the textile factory being built. It means not to allow the armed bandits to stain the rare beauty of the joining of the Lugela and Licungo Rivers. It means to defend our gains, our houses, farms, children, and wives. It means to defend our own lives.

We were touched by your feelings of solidarity. You offered the little you have to the people of Matola who were victims of the racist South African bombardment. Your souvenirs express the ability, initiative, and labor of the people of Mocuba. We will take them with us and will convey to all our people the live image of the laborious people of Mocuba. We will also take with us the example of discipline that we have witnessed duringthis rally. We will take with us the model and examplary organization that has been displayed during this rally, this dialogue. This is the characteristic of the Mozambique people who are organized and disciplined.

We want also to greet the experts who work in this textile factory and this region of Mocuba, particularly the textile factory which is going to eliminate nakedness in our country. [applause] We want to express our recognition of the warm welcome and fraternity expressed by the people of Mocuba toward the foreign experts who live and work with you. [applause] This was the reason for our struggle, my brothers. Solidarity and friendship among peoples. Therefore, I thank you people of Mocuba for your warm hospitality and for the lessons of discipline and patriotism that you have taught us. We will carry this beautiful and emotional image of the people of Mocuba. Thank you people of Mocuba. The struggle continues.

SWAZILAND

Dzeliwe Appeals for Reinstatement as Regent

MB171206 Mbabane Domestic Television Service in English 1130 GMT 17 Aug 83

[Text] An application was submitted before the high court this morning for the reinstatement of Inkhosikati Dzeliwe as queen regent of the Kingdom of Swaziland. The assistant registrar of the high court read the application as follows: Dzeliwe, Indlovukazi and queen regent of Swaziland, versus Prince Sozisa Dlamini, the Supreme Council of State, and Prince Bhekimpi.

The chief justice, Mr Justice Charles Nathan, sitting with Justice Mr Ben Dunn and (Answatt Hassanali), postponed hearing until 1400 this afternoon, following a request for adjournment by Senior Counsel Mr (Rowcow Zeys), who has been instructed by Matse, Earnshaw, and Malinga firm of attorneys to appear on behalf of the respondents. Inkhosikati Dzeliwe was represented by Advocate Mr Douglas Lukhele.

ZAMBIA

Minister Says Refugees Entering From Angola

MB150827 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Home Affairs Minister Frederick Chomba has revealed that there have been quite a large number of refugees entering the country in the Western Province lately due to renewed hostilities between South African-backed UNITA rebel terrorists and the Angolan defense forces. The minister said although he had no statistics yet, this figure of refugees coming in had certainly increased lately.

Reliable sources say last week alone saw some 40 Angolans arriving at Zambezi Boma [district headquarters] where they are still being (?camped). It is believed that the increasing influx in Zambezi District after a long lull is as a result of the shift in the operations zone of the South African-backed UNITA rebel group from Gago Coutinho along the border with Mwinilunga under pressure from Angolan forces to areas near Zambezi District.

ZIMBABWE

Harare Reports Nkomo Arrival, Press Conference

MB161832 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, returned home today after 5 months of self-imposed exile in Britain. Dr Nkomo said at a news conference at his Highfield home later that he had returned to help settle problems which he refused to identify. When he arrived at the airport Dr Nkomo was held over an hour in customs, trying to clear [word indistinct] TV and radio [word indistinct]. His deputy of ZAPU, Comrade Josiah Chinamano, [words indistinct]. When Dr Nkomo left Zimbabwe he claimed

that his life was in danger. This followed intensified antidissident operations in Matabeleland by the army after the discovery of large caches of arms and ZAPU property strategically scattered around the country. Just before he fled Dr Nkomo claimed that security forces had killed civilians, including the former president of the Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Government, Josia Gumede, who is still alive.

SAPA Report on Press Conference

MB161248 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1043 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] Harare, Aug 16, SAPA — The Zimbabwe opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, arrived in Harare from five months self-imposed exile today and told journalists at a press conference he had returned to present a plan to solve "the problem of my country." But Mr Nkomo refused to give details of his solution or define Zimbabwe's "problem" at a conference for more than 50 local and foreign journalists. "Let's not talk about the past. If we are going to talk of people who are dead, we will get to talk of too many bodies," the burley, veteran nationalist told a Zimbabwe Ministry of Inforation officer in answer to a question. She had asked him to confirm whether anyone was killed or injured in a national army raid on his southern Bulawayo home, which caused him to flee the country declaring the prime minster, Mr Robert Mugabe, wanted him assassinated.

But he did elaborate: "Two people died in my house and one was seriously injured." His return was "an attempt by me to bring a plan to others, and whether they accept that attempt or not — I have not received any reply from the prime minister," Mr Nkomo said, referring to a letter he had written to Mr Mugabe from his London sanctuary. "What's important here is to try and work out a scheme that will bring about a permanent solution."

Skillfully parrying questions or saying outright that he could not reply "because I have not been through parliament," Mr Nkomo still managed to slip in a few barbs at the government of Mr Mugabe. Asked if he would be holding any political rallies, he said: "We have a problem. The Law and Order Maintenance Act is still as intact as it was when (Ian) Smith used it. The state of emergency that was declared on November 5, 1965, is still intact, and regulations that prevailed throughout that period are still there and new ones are being brought around. This is why I am talking about a solution that removes all this nonsense that remains," he said.

Mr Nkomo announced he would attend parliament tomorrow when debate on a motion to have him expelled from the House of Assembly because he missed 21 consecutive sitting days, is due to resume. "Now that I am back I think my good self can occupy my seat. The seat is not the problem, nor my absence. The problem is that which made me absent. Why was the seat vacant? Because I wasn't there. Why was I not there? Because there was a problem." But he refused to say what the problem was. "The main problem of Zimbabwe right now is the problem that exists."

He said his arrival home on the same plane as Zimbabwe's minister of home affairs, Dr Herbet Ushewokunze, was accidental. "We met at the airport, and I asked Ushewolunze one question. I said: Do I look like a person who is in woman's clothes? And he laughed," said Mr Nkomo, referring to government claims that he escaped to Botswana disguised as a woman.

The ZAPU leader, who was sacked from the Cabinet after the discovery of arms caches on party property amid government allegations that he was planning a coup, got very angry when a local reporter asked why he had sought sanctuary in Britain and not the Soviet Union "that supported ZAPU in the struggle." Swelling with anger, he shouted: "The Soviet Union did not support ZAPU. It supported the Zimbabwe struggle. I could not be in Britain and Moscow at the same time." But he ended on a laugh, adding: "This time I went to Britain."

Mr Nkomo said he was happy to be back home. "It was unfortunate that I had to leave my country, and I made it perfectly clear that although I left under very trying circumstances I was not leaving Zimbabwe just for my safety, but that I would use the forced absence to do everything possible to try and work out some possible plan that might help to solve the problems of our country. But any plan could only work if people were "ready and willing to talk."

He called for a show of the "bravery, determination and selflessness" shown by thousands who died in the war for black rule. "Now that we are free we must be even less selfish — we must not be frightened that we will lose face. What is our face compared with the future of Zimbabwe," he said to ululation and applause at the press conference in the garden of his home in the Harare suburb of Highfield. Besides newsmen, party supporters swelled the number present to about 100.

Earlier ZAPU publicity secretary, Mr Mark Nziramasanga, told reporters not to judge the party by the number of people present. "We deliberately did not invite people to come here because we had to be very sure about the situation and so we decided to only get very few people who are easy to manage should the situation get out of hand... ZAPU is much greater than many people feel. Attempts have been made to destroy us, but in that endeavour the destroyers have destroyed themselves."